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JOHN BULL

Vol. XII. No. 316 | SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1912. | ONE PENNY

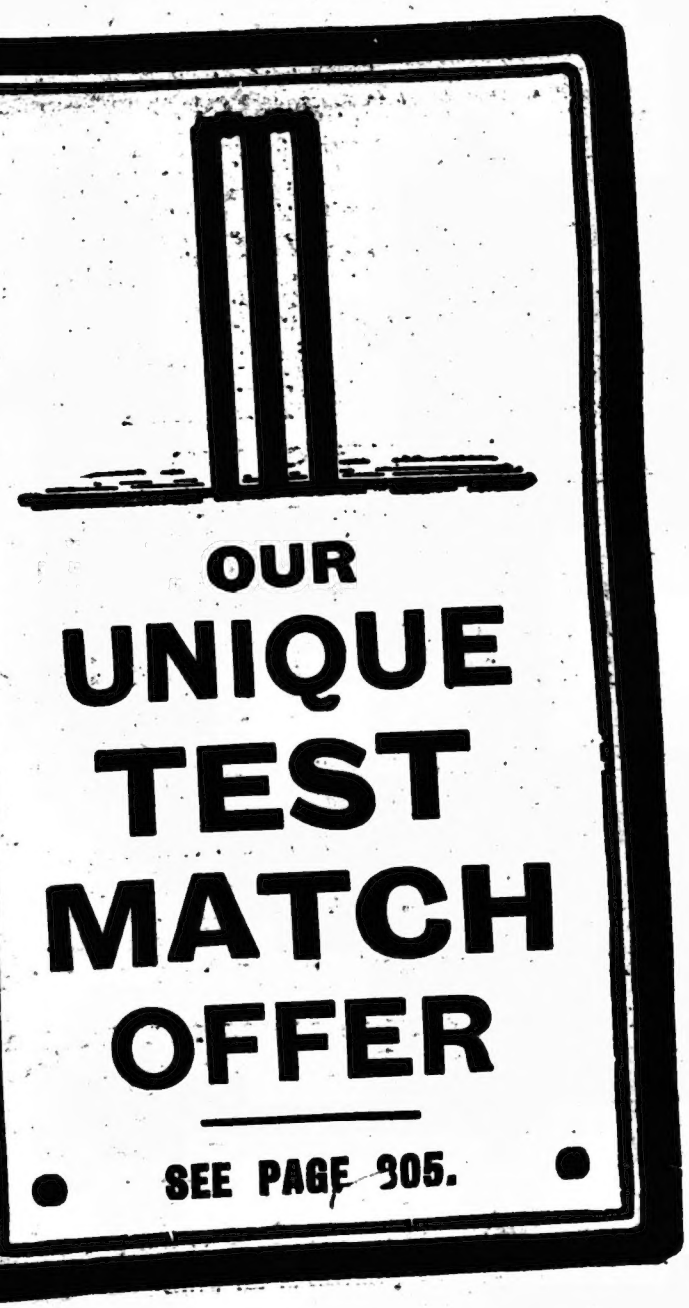
[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For meaning of this No. see Page iii. of cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.



THE NEWMAN & OXFORD STREET FURNITURE & ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES (L td

hold an immense stock of genuine high-class Second Hand ANTIQUE AND MODERN FURNITURE, £200,000 worth of high-class goods for sale, including FURNITURE, DRAPERIES, BEDDING, CARPETS, PLATE, LINEN, PIANOS, ETC., ETC.

The following is an abbreviated list of Furniture and Effects lately removed from

Milton Mansions, Queen's Club Gardens.
Drayton Road, Harlesden.
Dunsford Road, Wimbledon Park.
The Avenue, Chingford.
Maud Street, Rhyl,
and Elsewhere.

THE DINING ROOMS, ETC.,

comprise the following: Set of 6 small chairs and 2 arm chairs, Georgian period, 14 guineas; Georgian Sideboard to match, 11 guineas; dining table to match, extending, £7 10s.; Bookcase to match, 6 guineas; very massive oak Sideboard, £5 10s.; Overmantel to match, £2 5s.; Extending dining table, £2 10s.; 6 small chairs and 2 arm chairs in carved oak, 40 guineas; Sideboard, very finely carved, in oak, to match, 12 guineas; 3 Chesterfield Settees, £3 10s. each; 6 very fine Lounge Club Divan easy chairs, 27s. 6d. each; Carved Oak Dining Table, 4 guineas; Carved Oak Overmantel, £2 10s.; Saddlebag suite, £4 15s.; another dining-room suite, £3 15s.; Massive carved oak Sideboard, with oxydised copper fittings, bevelled plate glass, 6 small chairs and 2 arm chairs to match, extending dining table, heavy curb suite, £15 10s. the lot; similar set in fumigated oak, £13 10s.; 10 real Turkey carpets, about 9 by 12, at 7 guineas each; 4 Turkey carpets, about 9 ft. 6 ins. by 12 ft. 6 ins., £8 10s. each; 20 Turkey rugs, from 25s.; numerous carpets in Tapestry, Axminster and Velvet Pile, all sizes, in thoroughly good condition, to be sold without any reserve; a most elegant Grand Piano, 18 guineas; an upright Grand Piano, 12 guineas; another by Adolph Achumann, 18 guineas; another, by Carl Strauss, 22 guineas; several Grand Pianos by Broadwood, Emil Pauer, Collard and Collard, Bluthner, and Bechstein; 3 Hall Stands, 18s. 6d. each; hall chairs, from 7s. 6d.; and all necessary effects for completely furnishing Dining Rooms, Smoke Rooms, Libraries, Studies, etc., etc.

40 COMPLETE BEDROOMS.

Amongst numerous other articles are the following: All Brass square tube Bedstead, complete with spring mattress, £3 15s.; 10 Black and Brass Bedsteads, 12s. 6d. each; 12 White and Brass Bedsteads, 17s. 6d. each; 21 Oak Combination Bedsteads, 15s. 3d. each; pair Twin Brass Bedsteads, £5 10s.; full size Black and Brass Bedstead, with wire spring, overlay bolster, and 2 pillows, 45s.; massive 2 ft. pillar bedstead, with sanitary woven wire spring, 26s. 6d.; all brass bedstead, heavy pillars, almost new, £2 10s.: 6 Solid Oak Bedroom suites, complete, £4 10s. each: 6 White enamelled Bedroom Suites, Louis XV. period, £7 10s. each; 4 large solid Walnut Bedroom Suites, £9 10s. each; 6 Sheraton design Bedroom suites, £7 10s. each; very fine Sheraton design Bedroom suite, 12 guineas; 3 Gents' Wardrobes, fitted with trays and drawers, £7 10s. each; a Chippendale design mahogany Bedroom suite, £28; very fine Italian Brass Bedstead, 13 guineas; Sheraton design bedstead, complete with bedding, £4 5s.; Chippendale design mahogany Bedroom suite, £35; 7 ft. Satinwood Bedroom Suite, fully inlaid, £100; pair of Bedsteads to match, £20; 6 ft. 6 in. Sheraton design Bedroom suite, £80; 7 ft. Sheraton design Bedroom suite, 70 guineas; Sheraton design Bedstead to match, £9 10s.; 6 ft. Satinwood Bedroom suite, fully inlaid, £50; 6 ft. Olive wood Bedroom suite, almost new, 40 guineas; 12 Chests of Drawers, £2 10s. each; 2 Inlaid Sheraton design Cheval Glasses, £4 10s. each; and several other Bedroom Suites and Bedsteads, all to be sold without any reserve.

THE DRAWING ROOMS

include a very fine Chesterfield suite, upholstered in silk, most elaborate, £25; another Chesterfield suite in silk tapestry, £12 15s.; Satinwood finish Drawing Room suite, £8 15s.; large size 6 ft. Chesterfield and 2 easy chairs to match, £15 15s.; a Satinwood finish Cabinet, 8 guineas; Vernis Marten Cabinet, 14 guineas; Buhl Cabinet, £12 10s.; very pretty Boudoir Suite, 4 guineas; another, 6 guineas; 6 Chesterfields with adjustable ends, covered in art tapestry, £3 10s. each; 10 easy chairs, 25s. each; 25 Occasional Chairs, 6s. 6d. each; Occasional tables, from 20s. each; Satinwood decorated centre table, £2 5s.; Satinwood decorated China Cabinet, 13 guineas; Satinwood decorated Overmantel, £3 5s.; Gilt Drawing Room suite, 14 guineas; an all brass Fender Suite, 4 guineas; 6 Gilt chairs, 15s. each; 3 Gilt Berger chairs, covered in silk, 10 guineas each; Baby Grand Piano, 40 guineas; pair 9 light Candelabra, 7 guineas; 3 gilt suites covered in French silk, £8 10s. each; Curio Table, 30s.; 6 White enamelled Overmantels, 18s. 6d. each; 4 Axminster carpets, with borders, about 11ft. by 14 ft., £7 10s. each; several other Axminster and Velvet Pile carpets; large quantity of Sheffield plate and silver; also table linen, bed linen, draperies, etc., etc.

All goods delivered Town or Country, free of charge, or can remain stored 12 months free of charge. All goods shipped for Abroad perfectly free. Country Buyers should call and inspect these goods, where they can be seen any day, from 9 till 9, except Saturdays, when we close at 7 o'clock, at

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How to Completely Overcome TOBACCO HABIT

ATTAINED AT LAST—
A SUCCESSFUL REMEDY.

VICTORY IN 3 DAYS

Read These Testimonials. *They are but a few from Legions.*

NO LONGER WANTS A PIPE.

Mr. M. Denford, Merton, Devon, writes: "I took **your 3 days' C Treatment,** and am very pleased to testify that it **completely took away the craving for tobacco,** and I am also glad to say that I am **feeling in much better health than I have for many a day.** I have never once had a crave for the pipe since the first day I started taking your treatment."

CHEWED AND SMOKED FOR 25 YEARS.

Mr. Wm. Courtney, Mostyn, writes: "I had been a heavy smoker and chewer for 25 years. I am proud to say that since taking your C treatment the craving has entirely gone. I am a cured man with a clear brain and elastic step."

USED TOBACCO FOR 20 YEARS.

Mr. J. C. Guest, King's Norton, writes: "I write to tell you that your remedy for the Tobacco Habit has cured me entirely, and I have **no desire to smoke** at all now. It seems a marvel to give up the habit so easily after being addicted for a good 20 years."

NO LONGER WANTS CIGARETTES.

Mr. H. Thistlethwaite, Burnley, Lancs, writes: "Please accept my sincere thanks for your C Treatment. It has cured me of the Tobacco Habit, and I have no further desire for cigarettes. You can make what use you like of this letter, and you can refer anyone you like to me."

SMOKED 100 CIGARETTES WEEKLY.

Mr. C. Stables, Horsforth, writes: "I feel that I must write and let you know the result of your C Treatment, which has been a success. I used to smoke 100 cigarettes per week, and the craving for them was very great; but before I had finished your three days' treatment I had lost all desire to smoke and I must say that I feel much better now that I no longer smoke."

HEAVY SMOKER OF CIGARETTES.

Mr. J. Stevens, Redruth, writes: "Your C Treatment is all that you claim it to be. I was a heavy smoker of cigarettes, but I now have no more desire to smoke, and I thank you very much for what your C Treatment has done for me."

LOST ALL DESIRE FOR TOBACCO.

Mrs. E. Bennett, Cinderford, writes: "I am writing to say my husband has entirely lost all desire for tobacco since taking your C Set of Remedies. He has not touched tobacco in any form since he started taking them, and although he had a box of cigars sent to him, he has no desire whatever to smoke them."

GLAD TO SAVE MONEY.

Mr. James Ritchie, Aberdeen, N.B., writes: "Your C Treatment has proved excellent. I have no desire for tobacco now. I am very glad to be rid of the habit, because I can very well do with the money which I used to waste on tobacco."

ALL DESIRE OR CRAVING IS REMOVED FOR Pipe, Cigars, Chewing Tobacco, Cigarettes, Snuff.

I offer a genuine guaranteed remedy for tobacco or snuff habit in 72 hours. It is mild, pleasant, strengthening. Overcomes that peculiar **nervousness** and craving for **cigarettes, cigars, pipe, chewing tobacco,** or **snuff.** Tobacco is **poisonous** and seriously **injures the health** in several ways, causing such disorders as nervous dyspepsia, **sleeplessness,** gas, belching, gnawing, or other uncomfortable sensation in stomach, **constipation, headache, weak eyes, loss of vigour, red spots on skin, throat irritation, catarrh, asthma, bronchitis, heart failure, lung trouble, melancholy,** neurasthenia, loss of memory and will power, impure (poisoned) blood, rheumatism, lumbago, sciatica, neuritis, heartburn, **torpid liver, loss of appetite,** bad teeth, **foul breath,** lassitude, **lack of ambition,** weakening and falling out of hair, and many other disorders. **It is unsafe and torturing** to attempt to cure yourself of tobacco and snuff habit by suddenly stopping—don't do it. The correct method is to **eliminate the nicotine poison** from the system, strengthen the weakened, irritated membranes, and gradually overcome the craving. You can quickly and easily quit tobacco and enjoy yourself a thousand times better while feeling always in robust health. My FREE book tells all about the **wonderful 3 days' method.** Inexpensive, reliable. Also **Secret Method** for conquering habit in another, **without his knowledge.** Full particulars, including my **Book** on **Tobacco** and **Snuff Habit,** mailed in plain wrapper, **free.** Address:

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JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XII. No. 316. Week ending Saturday, June 22nd, 1912. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C., according to whether they relate to Editorial or Business matters.
All editorial enquiries MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

TO ADVERTISERS.

All applications for advertising spaces to be made to Messrs. Odhams Ltd., Advertising Dept., 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO LONDON READERS. EARLIER PUBLISHING DAY.

The London and Greater London Editions of JOHN BULL are now published on

WEDNESDAY MORNING, INSTEAD OF THURSDAY,

as hitherto; and we hope shortly to be able to expedite the publication of all Editions throughout the United Kingdom.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

POLICE BLUNDERS.

These are becoming just a little too frequent. It is all very well for magistrates to discharge innocent people "without a stain on their characters," but we should like to hear a little more said about those who are responsible for these ghastly "mistakes." Instead of the Bench and the police working, as they appear to do, hand in hand together, the one should be an ever-watchful check upon the other.

"SIR RUFUS"—

In ordinary circumstances we should view with alarm the addition of another lawyer to the Cabinet, but Sir Rufus Isaacs enjoys the rare distinction of being a lawyer with a Business training—a fact which to a large extent explains his phenomenal success at the Bar.

AS PROPHET.

We wrote the above paragraph in a Continental train *en route* for Calais, and on reaching Dover were honoured by a request from the young lady at the refreshment bar to inscribe "something" in her album, which was handed us open at the page upon which Mr. Lloyd George and Sir Rufus had written on their way home from the South a few months ago. Under his signature Sir Rufus had scribbled the words, "Everything comes to him who knows how to wait." Sir Rufus is not only a lawyer and a business man, but is apparently also blessed with a gift of prophecy.

HARROW HARPIES.

Of course, the King was only following precedent when he asked for an extra week's holiday on the occasion of his visit to Harrow. But this involves big profits to the masters at the expense of parents. Considering the huge sums made by them out of their catering, we think they should make a reduction when holidays are extended.

THE CONTINENTAL SERVICE.

By the way, when are we to have an afternoon service *to* the Continent at a sensible hour? Why cannot the train leave London at 4 o'clock, as it does Paris? Then busy people could get through their day's work before starting, could dine at a reasonable time in the train, and get to Paris by 11 o'clock instead of at 9.15, as at present—which is too late for any respectable function and too early for anything else! Oh, for a Business Railway System!

THE NEW LORD CHANCELLOR.

Lord Haldane is in his proper place at last. As War Minister, he was the finest possible specimen, both literally and figuratively, of a round man in a square hole. But won't his judgments be a study! He could never say "No" to a question under twenty minutes! Still, he does know something about law.

THE NEW WAR MINISTER.

"Jack Seely," too, will be in *his* right place. He is gradually losing his stained-glass-window manner, and *he* has the advantage of really knowing something about the Army.

"DEGREYDING" THE MINISTRY.

Of course, the Government grows more and more Whig every day. Everything points to the triumph of Mr. Churchill's Imperialism over Lloyd George's Democracy. Yet the Party machine is strong enough to quell every symptom of Radical revolt. Mr. Asquith is clearly paving the way for Sir Edward Grey's Premiership.

THE BIRTHDAY HONOURS.

How little the general public knows as to what lies behind these titles! For instance, here is poor Masterman, who is obliged to put up with a Privy Councillorship because he holds an unsafe seat and cannot therefore have ministerial promotion, which would involve a bye-election. And there is Sir Albert Spicer waiting for his promised peerage, but obliged to take something on account, as Central Hackney is too uncertain from a Party point of view. Sir Henry Dalziel becomes a "right honourable," doubtless in the hope that his parliamentary independence may be to some extent curbed; as is well known in political circles, Sir Henry could have been on the Treasury Bench at any time during the past two or three years, had his various public engagements permitted of his taking office; we expect, however, to see him there before long, all the same. And so we could run through the whole of the political honours. We confess, however, that we are beaten when we come to Mr. McCallum, M.P., whose only distinction we can recall is that he is a strong Free-trader, never tired of preaching the doctrine that the more we import into our country the better it is for us, but who at the same time prints an exhortation upon his soap boxes urging his customers to "support Home Industries"!

Are you interested in Cricket? If so, see page 805.

SUSPICIOUS PHILANTHROPY.

We have published quite enough about the Prudential Company to make it clear that it is not a philanthropic institution, and in view of the fact that an "Approved Society" under the Insurance Act is not permitted to make any profit, we are curious to know why the Company, in its capacity as such a Society, should be incurring heavy expenditure and taking great trouble to enlist members. Does it propose, having once got in touch with large bodies of workmen, to endeavour to foist illegal policies upon them?

THE SCRAMBLE.

That there is "something hanging to it" is proved by the desperate scramble now in progress for the honour of rendering this philanthropic service. Here, for instance, is the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks warning the public not to join any other "Approved Society" but their own, which, of course, "will be in a position to assure you benefits of greater value *than any other Approved Society in the country.*" Inasmuch as the "Prudential" is suggesting exactly the same thing, one of them must be telling fibs. It does not, however, follow that we are casting any slur upon the veracity of the Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks!

BAD TIDINGS.

Apropos of the above, we hear strange stories of the methods adopted by the Prudential Company to take advantage of the new Act for the purpose of securing business. All the old tricks of the trade are being employed, but one of the most amusing instances is furnished by the following notice, which was sent to one of our West London readers:—

15, High Lever Road, W.

It has been arranged that a Lecturer from the Prudential Assurance Co., Ltd., will attend at Jubilee Hall, Latimer Road, on Saturday, June 15th next, at 8 p.m., to explain the Insurance Act, which comes into force on the 15th July next.

I shall be glad if you will make it convenient to attend.

Yours faithfully,
A. CATER (Missionary).

Mr. Cater must be a very simple-minded man, and we advise any who may have been present at the lecture to take whatever they were told with a very big grain of salt.

MUSIC HALLS AND MUMMERS

There must always be heartburning and disagreements when music-hall people are selected to sing and dance before their Sovereign, but we think it would have been easy for the Selection Committee to make a more satisfactory choice than that for the Palace performance. To begin with, there are far too many foreigners. Surely it ought to have been possible to find sufficient talent at home without going to Italy, America, Russia and other distant countries. Secondly, the English performers are most of them more conspicuous for mediocrity than talent. However, we will go a bit further and suggest that as ordinary mummers receive titles, it would be a gracious and popular act to encourage the music halls in a similar way. Sir Little Tich or Lord Lauder would not sound any more absurd than some of those already honoured. And Lady Marie Lloyd, Lady Peggy Primrose, and Lady Cicely Loftus would certainly be more popular.

THE POWER OF THE PRESS.

Congratulations to the *Daily Chronicle* on securing the release of Miss Malecka. If the power of the Press were always exercised in such a way, what a power it would be!

REPENTANCE OR REPARATION?

The Vicar of Bude, the Rev. F. Wiltshire, seems to have strange ideas of Christianity, or, at any rate, of charity. It appears that two young people in his parish were indiscreet with their affections—with the usual result. The young man was anxious to make amends, but did not consider his salary sufficient to warrant matrimony. However, his employer generously came forward and supplied the necessary funds. But the Vicar refused to publish the banns on the ground that to do so would encourage immorality. He even quoted the phrase in the marriage service, "If anyone knows any just cause or impediment,' as anticipating a case of this sort. This theory would lead to strange results if carried out logically. Marriage would have to be denied to all people whose conduct had ever invited reproach. Even from the point of view of church dogma, the Vicar's interpretation is absurd. It would rule out the notions of forgiveness or making amends; would, indeed, put a premium upon immorality instead of discouraging it. Why, the very Roman Catholics, who attach the utmost importance to the marriage laws, always give absolution to penitents confessing their indiscretions and willing to submit to penance. Indeed, one would think that the first instincts of any decent parson or moral adviser would be to advocate marriage in a case of this kind. Reparation must surely be more useful and praiseworthy than any amount of "repentance." Luckily, there are other places where people may be married besides churches, but, all the same, we submit that the refusal to publish the banns was illegal, and that the parson may find himself in Queer Street if he attempts to act again in this high-handed way.

THE "WORK-FOR-ALL" COUNTRY.

Not many days ago, a labourer suffering from laudanum poisoning was found at midnight lying in the doorway of a Toronto store. In hospital, "he informed the attendant physicians he had not had anything to eat for several days. He had tramped around the city searching for employment, but had met with disappointment at every place he applied for work." Canadian emigrants, beware!

THE BETTER LAND.

And then there is the story of the English carpenter who "came from the prairie provinces (where there is 'work for all'!) to South Vancouver in the spring." Our authority is the *Vancouver World*. Spence was his name, and "for some time he had made an attempt to secure work at his trade." Failing during two months of his stay, he sought the Better Land by means of a dose of strychnine, leaving behind him a wife and four children. Again we say, "Before anybody is lured out to Canada, let him make sure he has a situation to go to, and understands the kind of situation it is."

FOLLOWING THE FASHION.

More "sincerest compliments" reach us almost weekly from all parts of the earth. Following our young friend, *Jack Canuck*—a Canadian equivalent to John Bull—comes *Uncle Sam*, published in Buffalo, a paper which apparently takes for its motto, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Its main object is the furthering of the cause of "good Government in nation, state and municipality." From its cover—which, by-the-bye, is a remarkable copy of our own, the figure of Uncle Sam being merely substituted for John Bull—it bears striking resemblance to ourselves. It is interesting to observe that the award bestowed upon perpetrators of humorous blunders is a lemon, whilst the senders of such "howlers" receive "half a dollar."

Cricket is all the rage now. So look on page 805.

LOGICAL DISENDOWMENT.

The advocates of disendowment in Wales are probably contemplating the application of their principles to England in the near future. We venture to ask them in all innocence and sincerity why they should not go a step further and advocate the disendowment of rich Nonconformist bodies. After that, they may proceed to disendow all the bloated philanthropic societies which have accumulated and inherited huge sums of money during the last century or so, and spent the greater part of their income on offices and herds of officials. If the Welsh Church is fair game, why not the Church Missionary Society, and the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and the Bible Society, and Miss Agnes Weston, the sailors' alleged friend, who offers food and lodging at a high price, not only to sailors, but to all sorts of poor people, and refuses to give any account of her stewardship?

TERRITORIAL TITLES.

We are sometimes asked by readers whether Territorial officers are entitled to be addressed by their rank when off duty. Inasmuch as they are always under military law and hold His Majesty's commission, they are just as much entitled to use their rank as officers of the regular Army. This statement may be taken as official and authoritative.

A DESERVING CASE.

One day recently a vicious and callous brute, named Irving, of Poplar Street, Canning Town, cut and lacerated a kitten and then buried it alive. As our readers well know, magistrates as a class cannot be charged with undue severity in punishing brutes of this type. The West Ham Bench, however, sentenced the man to three months' hard labour. It was a deserving case.

MENTAL DEGENERATES AND MARRIAGE.

By making illegal marriage or connivance at marriage between persons certified as mental deficients the Government have done well—whatever be the difficulties in the way. Everybody must see that such marriages are an outrage on the nation and the race. Making them a criminal offence, however, will not get rid of casual alliances, and there is the difficulty that if mental deficients are debarred from the one they will enter into the other. That is the difficulty in the way of any such legislation. If the State could keep the men and women entirely apart the multiplication of mental degenerates would be quickly brought under control. As it is, we hope for the best.

FIRST DIVISIONERS.

If the Home Secretary would revise some of the iniquitous sentences passed on men and women who have the misfortune to fall into the hands of some of our Justices of the Peace with the same zeal as he tinkers with those influential enough to bring Parliamentary pressure on him, he would be much better occupied. For instance, he confers on Mrs. Pankhurst and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence the luxury of the First Division, but what is he going to do about the poor, weak-minded girl of 19 sentenced to three months' hard labour—hard labour, mind—for sleeping out? Early information will be thankfully received.

LICENCES TO ANNOY.

We are pleased with the Provost and Town Clerk of Prestwick, who announces that:—"No person shall on the esplanade, seashore, etc., deposit any seaweed or seawreck except at such places as may be fixed by the Town Council, *or injure or annoy any person except at such times and places as may be fixed by the Town Council.*" Really quite a sporting Town Council!

"OH, HE'S A MONEYLENDER!"

Mr. Justice Bucknill is with us in declining to "join in the chorus," as he put it in court the other day, "against moneylenders." They are, in fact, a very useful race of people when you have need of them. "They are the only people who will give money on a piece of paper which very often turns out to be worthless. When people get money they cannot pay back"—(and sometimes do not intend to pay back, his lordship might have added)—"they howl about it and say 'Oh, he's a moneylender.'" In fact, among a certain sort of borrowers—the sort with a very high ideal of commercial honesty—there is an idea that a moneylender is a philanthropist specially appointed by Providence to lend them money without security, and if he sues them they allege he is charging them "unconscionable" interest. Even a moneylender is entitled to be paid according to his risk.

LLOYD GEORGE IN SCRIPTURE.

Probably by this time Mr. Lloyd George will be about as puzzled as to his right place in Scripture as we are ourselves. He has been variously described as an angel from heaven, a devil from the pit, and lots of other things between. The latest is that while he and Mrs. Lloyd George were at Blaenyffos they went to chapel to hear a Welsh minister, one Rev. Aaron Morgan, preach from John xiv., 27 "in his usual convincing style." In the course of his eloquent remarks our rev. brother "referred to the ever memorable event in the lives of Shadrach, Meshech, and Abednego being cast into the fiery furnace when the King, who had cast three persons into the furnace, beheld the form of the Fourth, and Mr. Morgan declared that this was really the beginning of Form IV." Next Sunday or the Sunday after we confidently expect some Welsh preacher or other will prove that Mr. Lloyd George is the original Moses in the Bulrushes, whilst a Church of England clergyman will, of course, identify him as Balaam's ass.

ALL SILENT?

In his current magazine, Canon D. F. Wilson, Vicar of Mitcham, regrets to say that on the visit of the Archdeacon the collection was disappointingly small. "The Archdeacon came by motor," he says, "not his own, the cost of his journeys being defrayed by his congregation. I wish you would do the same for me, only, of course, when used for parochial purposes." Canon Wilson has doubtless a strong belief in justification by faith. Why not lead his congregation in special prayer?

TWOPENCE FOR MANNERS.

One of our correspondents is very much annoyed because a military officer submitted to be sued for 2d. for a taxi fare. As the case was given in his favour, we suppose he was within his rights—we might even say that he resisted in the interests of the public. Of course, most people are quite willing to give more than the actual fare when they have been treated with civility, but we do not see any excuse for suggesting meanness or paltriness when anybody prefers to hold out for his strict rights. It cannot have been very pleasant for a member of the Athenæum Club to attend at Bow Street Police Court upon a summons for non-payment of 2d.

BOURNEMOUTH BATHERS AND BIBLES.

At the recent inquest on two youths who were drowned while bathing at Bournemouth it came out that between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m there was no patrol on the beach where the accident occurred. It is only fair, however, to say that the Town Council have authorised a man to stand on the beach and sell Bibles.

Will C. B. Fry be top scorer for England? See page 805.

The Gineral—and Others!

Since a sentry outside one of the public buildings in Dublin neglected to salute the new General-in-Command because he did not know him, an order has been issued commanding sentries to salute all closed motor-cars or carriages seen to contain an officer or a gentleman having the appearance of an officer, and also "anyone passing in plain clothes having the appearance of an officer." According to information received, the sentries are now presenting arms at the rate of forty to the minute. People having the appearance of officers are bobbing up all over the place. The other afternoon, if report speaks truly, a medical student got himself up regardless of expense, even to the Piccadilly window in his eye, planted himself before a sentry, and kept him at the "present arms" position for ten minutes on end—the student glaring at his victim like a stuffed owl, and the sentry looking as though he would like to run the supposed officer through. The public are evidently going to have a lot of cheap fun out of Tommy Atkins in Ireland.

The Press and the Mormons.

Lieutenant-Colonel Challoner, of Sunderland, thinks that "in the interests of purity, truth and righteousness," the press would be better occupied in exposing and denouncing and suppressing Mormon propaganda in England than in spending so much time and space in catering for the sporting world. We have frequently attacked the Mormons, to be frequently attacked by the Mormons in return. But the Home Office sees no reason to interfere. The Mormons, says the Home Secretary, preach their doctrines peacefully, they assert that polygamy is no longer one of their practices or beliefs, they point out that it is forbidden by the United States law, and there is no actual *evidence* that the girls who become Mormon converts and emigrate to Utah enter into such alliances. All that *we* are able to say is that we don't believe what the Mormons tell us and we warn young women against the missionaries. If they go to Utah, they go at their own risk. We remind Lieutenant-Colonel Challoner that "Abodes of Love" worse than any Mormonism flourish in our midst, and that our own law can, apparently, do nothing to check the infamy.

The Portuguese Puzzle.

We have always found it difficult to believe that any sane person would trouble to walk across the road to enable Dom Manoel to regain the throne of Portugal. But it appears that the Portuguese republic is so corrupt and abominable and oppressive that a very serious movement is afoot to upset it. Moreover, Dom Miguel having signed a new Treaty of Dover, the friends of tradition are reduced to ranging themselves under the banner of the cautious little person who hurried away so fast at the first whisper of trouble. The difficulty is that Lisbon is entirely republican, while the rest of the country is almost unanimously royalist. Lisbon controls everything in Portugal, and there is no hope of effecting concentration between the people in the various country towns. So far, the reactionary movement has confined itself to rides up and down the Spanish frontier—little useless raids which only result in the loss of ammunition and guns, a mere playing into the hands of the people who are for the moment in authority. We should not be the least surprised to hear that Oporto has been captured by the Royalists, and when civil war begins in real earnest it will be very difficult for anyone to forecast its end. Perhaps the best solution of the difficulty would be the annexation of Portugal by Spain, or even a twentieth-century Moorish invasion.

Mutinous Italians.

Everybody long ago lost interest in the alleged Italian War in Tripoli, except of course the Italians. But now we hear that the soldiers at the front are beginning to mutiny, and the people at home are rapidly losing their enthusiasm. Considering that eight months have been spent in advancing four miles from the coast, that the Turkish troops are within speaking distance of the invaders' trenches, and that each side reports huge victories every day, it is certainly credible that the campaign may appear wearisome to conscripts who have been taken away from their farms and vineyards. This is a bit of news which has not yet come to the knowledge of the European Press.

Who Will Have Constantinople?

The break-up of the Turkish Empire is obviously imminent. Of course, it has been imminent for a long time and the chief puzzle has been as to what will happen to Constantinople. We are now in a position to offer a very plausible suggestion which has reached us from a high diplomatic quarter. Obviously no Power would be inclined to allow this great prize to fall into the hands of any rival. But there is no reason why Constantinople should not be internationalised and administered by Consuls in much the same way as Tangier and Shang-hai. No one except the Turks is likely to offer any objection to this suggestion, and we have reason to believe that it has already been discussed in detail by the chief chanceries of Europe.

The Tongue Tax.

Mr. Lloyd George has, rather late in the day, stumbled upon a somewhat obvious issue out of his tribulations, or at any rate out of the most pressing of them. Great numbers of women and children were declaring that they absolutely refused to employ their tongues in the business of stamp-licking. But now it is proposed that such as prefer to keep their tongues for other purposes shall be allowed to write cheques for the Servant Tax for three months in advance. Of course, this does not affect the wisdom or folly of the Insurance Act, but it does take away one of the many grievances of prospective passive resisters.

Passengers' Baggage.

A daily paper has been printing suggestions about luggage, but we must confess that they are not very convincing. For instance: "Don't leave luggage on the platform or in anyone's charge while you go for a drink or a paper. Take it to the cloak-room. It costs 2d.—that is better than losing your baggage." This may be all very well in theory, but it is not everybody who has so much time to waste. Fancy a solemn procession to the cloak-room before determining upon the purchase of light literature or light refreshment! And why not leave your luggage in charge of a porter? If he loses it, the company would be responsible. We also venture to enquire why luggage is called "baggage" in an English paper. So many journalists appear to be Yankees nowadays that there is a constant risk of the degeneration of the language. We remember an anecdote about an Englishman who went to America and asked a railway servant about his portmanteau. The man professed to have no idea of what was meant, and on receiving an explanation exclaimed angrily "Why the devil can't you say 'grip sack'?"

Coleridge on Party.

Party men always hate a slightly differing friend more than a downright enemy . . . It must be undergone by everyone who loves the truth for its own sake beyond all other things.—(From "Table Talk.")

A cricket competition worth winning! See page 805.

PERMISSION OR COMPULSION?

Will Mr. McKenna explain the meaning of the new Prison Regulation, that male prisoners undergoing a sentence not exceeding one month shall not be "permitted" to attend divine service daily as hitherto? Is "permitted" a misprint for "compelled"; or is the meaning of the rule that the short term prisoners, being presumably less wicked than the others, do not require so much "religion" pumped into them?

BUSINESS AND BARONAGE.

The *Macclesfield Times* is kind enough to say that the reason why Mr. Bottomley resigned his seat was, that he had arranged a deal with the Government to receive a Peerage. This does not happen to be strictly accurate, but we have no objection to echo our contemporary's exclamation, "Oh, for a Business Baron!"

A HANDLER OF HISTORY.

A kind correspondent has favoured us with a copy of the *Methodist Times*, which says "JOHN BULL will have his readers believe that Methodism was more suitable to the age of Charles II. than to that of *George VII.* Really JOHN BULL should handle dates and history a little less carelessly." Less carelessly than the *Methodist Times*?

AN OILY HYPOCRITE!

In another column we address an "Open Letter" to the "Reverend" William Hughes, the "Founder and Director" of the African Institute at Colwyn Bay—established for the purpose of training Native Africans for missionary work. We have long had our eye upon this charlatan, and are delighted to have succeeded, through the medium of the recent libel action, in putting an end to his nefarious career.

H. H. A., soliloquising: "Ah, me! How like the Party system is to that old school game I used to play, Follow-my-Leader!"

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

["*Taking the Biscuit*" *has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.*]

For stating in an article published in the "Sunday Chronicle": "The girl SAT UP UPON HER ELBOW *when she saw me,"*

Mr. A. NEIL LYONS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following instructions to cyclists: "Don't repair a puncture in too much of a hurry. Having found the leak, clean the tube, and PATCH WELL WITH SANDPAPER,"

THE SCOUT
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a note regarding the "Daily Mail" aeroplane tour that: "From the football ground it is possible to see on a clear day inland to Dartmoor, and a great distance east and west, this will enable spectators to discern the airman IN FLIGHT *both before and* AFTER HE LANDS,"

THE SALCOMBE TIMES
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, in an article entitled "The Children," that: "Here are blue eyes, open foreheads, golden hair, and sturdy limbs, that should bring the blush of shame to the CHILDLESS MOTHER *of Mayfair and Belgravia,"*

THE DAILY HERALD
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For sending out the following message: "British Steamers 'Edith' loaded bulk grain, and 'Tangistan' were IN COLLISION *at 6.35 this morning,* THREE MILES BELOW WATERLINE,"

THE EXCHANGE TELEGRAPH CO.
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

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*For advertising in the "Biggleswade Chronicle" a sale by auction "*IN *the Old Iron Foundry,* WHICH HAS BEEN PULLED DOWN,"

Mr. FRANK MADDISON (Auctioneer, St. Neots)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising in the "Church Times": "Required, SINGLE *priest,* MARRIED *(no family),"*

"VICAR" (Brightwell, Ipswich)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, in its report of the International Golf Match, England v. Scotland, at Westward Ho: "At the end of the first round EACH SIDE LED *by two matches,"*

THE BRISTOL EVENING NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a paragraph headed "Territorial News. 'E.' Company Orders for the Month of June": "There will be a COAL ROLLING PARADE *and instructions how to put marching order together on Tuesday, June 25th,"*

THE ALDERSHOT GAZETTE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a report of the proceedings in Committee on the Home Rule Bill that: "The motion was seconded by Mr. SEYMOUR *Hicks,"*

THE EVENING HERALD (Dublin)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED.

We give 2s. 6d. to the sender of every "Biscuit" published. Should the same "Biscuit" be forwarded by more than one competitor, preference will be given to the reader whose letter is first opened. In forwarding newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be sent to identify the name of the paper and date of issue.

Our sporting readers should turn to page 805 at once!

KING "BRUCE" AND THE LIFEBOAT.

A MODERN ADAPTATION OF ELIZA COOK'S "KING BRUCE AND THE SPIDER."

BY HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

KING BRUCE AND THE SPIDER.

King Bruce of Scotland flung himself down
In a lonely mood to think;
'Tis true he was monarch, and wore a crown,
But his heart was beginning to sink.

For he had been trying to do a great deed,
To make his people glad;
He had tried, and tried, but couldn't succeed;
And so he became quite sad.

He flung himself down in low despair,
As grieved as man could be;
And after a while as he pondered there,
"I'll give it all up," said he.

Now just at that moment a spider dropp'd
With its silken cobweb clue;
And the King in the midst of his thinking stopp'd
To see what that spider would do.

'Twas a long way up to the ceiling dome,
And it hung by a rope so fine;
That how it would get to its cobweb home
King Bruce could not divine.

It soon began to cling and crawl
Straight up with strong endeavour;
But down it came with a slippery sprawl,
As near the ground as ever.

Up, up it ran, not a second it stay'd
To utter the least complaint;
Till it fell still lower, and there it laid,
A little dizzy and faint.

Its head grew steady—again it went,
And travell'd a half-yard higher;
'Twas a delicate thread it had to tread,
A road where its feet would tire.

Again it fell and swung below,
But again it quickly mounted;
Till up and down, now fast, now slow,
Nine brave attempts were counted.

"Sure," cried the King, "that foolish thing
Will strive no more to climb;
When it toils so hard to reach and cling,
And tumbles every time."

But up the insect went once more,
Ah, me! 'tis an anxious minute;
He's only a foot from his cobweb door,
Oh, say will he lose or win it?

Steadily, steadily, inch by inch,
Higher and higher he got;
And a bold little run at the very last pinch
Put him into his native cot.

"Bravo, bravo!" the King cried out,
"All honour to those who *try*;
The spider up there defied despair,
He conquer'd, and why shouldn't I?"

And Bruce of Scotland braced his mind,
And gossips tell the tale,
That he tried once more as he tried before,
And that time did not fail

Pay goodly heed, all ye who read,
And beware of saying, "I *can't*."
'Tis a cowardly word, and apt to lead
To Idleness, Folly, and Want.

Whenever you find your heart despair
Of doing some goodly thing;
Con over this strain, try bravely again,
And remember the Spider and King.

KING "BRUCE" AND THE LIFEBOAT.

King Bruce of Ismay flung himself down
On the first-class deck to think;
Although he was owner, he wore a frown,
For his ship was beginning to sink.

For he had been trying to do a great deed,
To make his combine glad;
He had tried through the ice to keep up speed,
But now he was sore and sad.

He flung himself down in a low deck-chair,
As grieved as man could be,
And after a while as he pondered there,
"I think I'll scoot," said he.

Now just at that moment a lifeboat dropped
From the davit above the blue;
And King Bruce in the midst of his thinking stopped
To see what that boat would do.

'Twas a long way down from the great ship's dome,
And it hung by a rope so fine,
That how it would get to its ocean home
King Bruce could not divine.

It soon began to creak and crawl
Straight down with strong endeavour;
But down it came with a slippery sprawl,
As near the ship as ever.

Down, down it came, then a second it stayed,
But Bruce made no complaint;
It came still lower, and there it laid;
The crew were dizzy and faint.

Its bow grew steady—again it moved
And travelled a half-yard lower;
'Twas now time, he said, his way to thread
To that boat—and take an oar!

And as it fell and swung below,
The ship's side he quickly mounted;
And up and down, now fast, now slow,
That boat's contents he counted.

"Here," cried the King, "that foolish thing
Will never reach the sea.
Hold fast the rope to which I cling.
Look out—make room for ME."

Then down the INSECT slid to the floor
Of the boat—'twas an anxious minute
(He stood at the threshold of Death's door);
Oh, say will he lose or win it?

Steadily, steadily, inch by inch,
Lower and lower he got,
And a bold little jump at the very last pinch
Put him into his cosy cot!

"Bravo, bravo!" King Bruce cried out—
"All honour to those who *try*;
The people up there are in despair,
I've a place, and why *shouldn't* I?"

And Bruce of Ismay braced his mind
To prepare a pretty tale;
How he tried his best the women to find—
How he heard no children's wail.

Pay goodly heed, all ye who read,
And beware of saying "I *can't*."
Think of *yourself*—and pay no heed
To daughter, wife, sister or aunt.

Whenever on land, or at sea, or in air,
You're in peril like noble King Bruce,
Look after yourself, and never despair—
The Devil will honour the truce.

If you follow cricket see page 805.

KNOCKED DOWN AND "HELD UP."

HOW INFIRMARIES TAKE TOLL OF PATIENTS.

Michael Coughlan, of High Street, Poplar, got knocked down by a motor a few days ago and badly injured. After the accident he was taken to the West Ham Infirmary. At the time he had in his possession 13s. 9d. Ten days later he was discharged, and when he asked for the return of his money he was told to go to the Guardians for it. On applying to them, they refused to give it up, so he had to walk home—a matter of a couple of miles—though he was still very weak and ill. On arrival, he immediately wrote us on the subject, and in turn we communicated with the Secretary of the Infirmary, and have received the following unsigned letter in reply :—

> I have only to say that the disposal of the money found upon the patient's person on admission was carried out according to the instructions of the Guardians in accordance with the law; the Steward is bound to pay it in to the Guardians and has no power to return it. In regard to his calling upon the Collector I have nothing to say, the department being quite distinct from and unconnected with the infirmary. For any information in that respect you should apply to Thos. Smith, Esq., Clerk to the Guardians, Board Room, Union Road, Leytonstone, N.E.
>
> The patient's injuries were not so serious as represented in the printed slip. He was quite well in ten days, and requested his discharge.

Perhaps "Thomas Smith, Esq.," will send us along that 13s. 9d. in order that we may remit it to Coughlan. Twelve shillings of the amount, we are informed, really belongs to a fellow workman of the unfortunate man.

The case appears to us to be a good example of official callousness.

TOO GOOD.

GIVEN AWAY WITH A HALF-CHEST OF TEA.

A Mr. K. Barn Hartley, of Messrs. Watson, Ltd., 61, Crutched Friars, seems to have some difficulty in pushing the firm's "Golden Blend" at eighteenpence a pound. Here is one of his letters, recently forwarded to a reader :—

> I have had a sample Lady's Umbrella sent in by a very large firm of Manufacturers, but think that this is rather too good an article for a general offer, as the price is such that I would have to offer it with two chests.
>
> Now I know you like good things, and if you care to accept this sample piece, I should only ask you to take a nominal quantity of tea, say a single half-chest.
>
> It is really a most valuable and unique article. It has a seven inch crook handle of Sterling Silver, Hall-marked, richly decorated and embossed, and a massive Mount also of Sterling Silver. Between Handle and Mount there is a three inch inlay of fine porcelain, exquisitely hand-painted with a dainty Watteau subject. Finest Silk Cover and Fox's Frame, dark green Partridge Rattan Stick. May I trouble you to let me have your reply by return ?

This dodge is as old as the hills. Watson's should try something original.. Why not give the value in tea ?

CUNARD ACCOMMODATION.

PASSENGERS PETITION "JOHN BULL."

One hundred and forty passengers on board the Cunard liner *Ulionia* have signed the following petition and ask us to give it publicity. As a matter of public interest we have much pleasure in doing so :—

> The food supplied in most cases is badly cooked. The tea and coffee is rotten. The fresh herrings supplied on the second or third day out and some of the meat were putrid. The accommodation provided is disgraceful; for about 1,000 third-class passengers there are four baths and 16 bowls. Amongst the signatures attached are people who complain about their cabins. The dripping of water from the pipes has saturated their bedclothes, thus causing discomfort. The cabins are nothing more or less than temporary structures, consisting of match-boarding, held in position by the upright bars forming the end of the beds. The structures mentioned are raised from the ground about a foot, and there is quite the same space of opening at the top, therefore it is possible in many cases to see into each others' cabins.

We await the company's explanation.

ROBBERY UNDER ARMS.

OFFICIAL RESERVE AND RESERVISTS.

Thomas Chant, Army Reservist, was called up in December, 1900, to rejoin the colours, and served until October, 1901. He should have received £15 bounty money, but, being ignorant of the fact, he failed to apply for it. In 1909 one of his old comrades told him of the amount due to him. Being a married man, he straightway went home, acquainted his wife of his good fortune, and applied to the War Office for his just claim. Strange as it may seem, the War Office repudiated the claim on the plea of time limit. Mr. Falle, the Member for Portsmouth, then took up the cudgels on the man's behalf, and the following is the Under-Secretary's attitude :—

> The preamble to the Pay Warrant lays down that pay or other pecuniary advantages not claimed within a period of twelve months shall be deemed to be forfeited, unless under such special circumstances as shall be approved by the Army Council. It is the practice of the Army Council, in the exercise of its discretion under the warrant, to refuse any extension of the twelve months beyond six years.

Surely it is the duty of the authorities to remit the money to the person who has earned it—or, alternatively, inform him that it is payable. The present official reserve upon the point seems to amount to robbery under arms.

JOICEY TO JUGGINS.

TEMPTING TIPS FOR TURF TYROS.

"I flatter myself that my name and reputation in Turf circles need no eulogising," writes F. Joicey, of 141, Victoria Street, S.W., to prospective clients. He proceeds : "I am personally acquainted with the best-known owners and trainers, and although for many years I shared in common with others the vagaries of turf investments, for the past four years it has been brought home to me more forcibly than ever the utter futility of attempting to beat the 'bookies' unless you are absolutely in receipt of sound and undeniable information, or, in vulgar parlance, 'in the know.'" Joicey is anxious to supply his special information up to the end of the racing season for the trivial sum of £21.

Perhaps, as a preliminary, he will tell us the names of "the best-known trainers and owners" with whom he is personally acquainted, and who, it is suggested, are giving him "sound and undeniable information." Is he on speaking terms with any of the gee-gees ? If so, he may possibly get tips straight from the horses' hoofs !

THE BROADSTAIRS LIFEBOAT.

SEQUEL TO OUR EXPOSURE.

Some months ago our Special Commissioner visited Broadstairs, and from an inspection tug witnessed the launching of the lifeboat. After running down the slipway, she stuck in the sands and could not be floated. At the time we passed some severe criticism upon the management of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, and now comes the sequel—the lifeboat is to be taken away. Now we put it to the management that this is mere petty spite. More than once they have had friction with the crew, and it is freely rumoured that our representative, on the occasion of his visit, had advance notice from the men of the official inspection, and so was able to witness the fiasco of the launch. The record up to date for life-saving by the Broadstairs boat is 344. We have only to ask if the Institution intend giving a pension out of the huge sum it receives from the public to the men who have manned this boat and risked their lives in many a stormy sea.

"SPONGE MERCHANTS."

A correspondent calls our attention to a letter issued by the employees of Messrs. Henry Marks and Sons, of Houndsditch, the well-known sponge merchants, soliciting "kind consideration towards the funds" in connection with their annual dinner, and suggests that the telegraphic address of the firm, "Sponge, London," is appropriate, especially as the circular is stated to be issued "with the consent of the Directors."

£100 for two correct scores. See page 805.

AN OILY HUMBUG.

SEQUEL TO OUR EXPOSURES OF THE AFRICAN INSTITUTE AT COLWYN BAY—OUR CHARGES JUSTIFIED—JURY STOP THE CASE—JUDGE'S STRONG REMARKS.

The African Institute at Colwyn Bay is closed at last. For upwards of twenty years this bogus establishment for the training of native African missionaries has been carried on under the management of an oily humbug calling himself the Rev. William Hughes, and many thousands of pounds have been raked in from the religious and charitable public in response to canting appeals in the form of misleading and lying accounts of the "work" of the Institute, so cunningly worded as to dupe even the late Mr. Gladstone.

The Stiggins-Chadband Breed.

The man Hughes is a perfect type of the Stiggins-Chadband breed—just the sort of man it delights our hearts to cross-examine. He had not been in the witness box at the Ruthin Assizes long, before the Judge and special jury and everyone in the Court began to see through him. Prevarication, contradiction and fencing, coupled with inevitable and most damning admissions, soon stamped him as an arch-hypocrite. Again and again the Judge warned him as to his method of giving evidence, and ultimately, at the close of our cross-examination, the jury announced that they had heard enough of the case. Even then the old humbug insisted upon his counsel proceeding, but after a strong intimation from his Lordship, Mr. Ralph Banks, K.C., tied up his papers and agreed to a verdict for the defendants with agreed costs. And this despite the fact that Hughes had cunningly chosen his ground. The article he sued upon was the first, which was practically a mere introduction to the second, forming a scathing exposure of his methods and containing an account of the disgraceful philandering between his niggers and white women, many of them visitors. The issue of this writ, after the publication of the second article, of course stopped the further disclosures we had announced.

Cleansing Colwyn Bay.

There are certain aspects of life at the "institute" still to be disposed of, and we shall return to the subject in due time. Meanwhile, Colwyn Bay is delighted to be rid of the pest of Hughes and his niggers. As he left the Court he was followed by a hooting and jeering crowd, consisting largely of Colwyn Bay residents who had come to hear the trial. These local people had long been aware of the manner in which the "institute" was carried on and disgusted with Hughes' cant and hypocrisy, but the rev. humbug was, as is usual with such individuals, full of bounce, and published in his local "rag" threats of what he would do to anybody who dared to criticise himself or his precious institute. And they were also overawed by the fact that Hughes was a District Councillor and was known to hold the key to the cupboard containing the "skeleton" of some of the prominent residents in the place, whom he was therefore in a position to coerce into assisting him to make things very uncomfortable for anybody in the locality towards whom he felt antipathy.

The Black Terror.

But at last the game is up. For a generation he has been the curse of their town. His black "students" have been a terror to the district and an ever present menace to the safety of the white women. A sensuous, barbarous, and cunning lot of niggers, some of them of the lowest order of intelligence and morals, have served as his stock in trade for the purpose of extorting money from gullible and weak-minded visitors to Colwyn Bay, and from an innocent public which believed his lying representations as to the glorious work they were doing in various "fields of labour" as the result of their training at the bogus institute. Hughes had published a list of "students to date," with their various "fields of labour," which included the names of men expelled from the institute for all kinds of offences, and even the name of a little child who had been temporarily placed with him, on profitable terms, for board and lodging. He had adorned his appeals with fictitious photographic groups of students and he had lied as to his foreign mission stations. He had employed in his service, as subscription cadger and preacher, at least one negro whom he knew to be an ex-convict (having been sent to prison on various charges immediately on leaving the "institute" as a duly trained Christian student) and whom he knew to be a man of the vilest moral antecedents. The rev. humbug had flooded the district with dishonoured cheques, cashed when he knew there was nothing in the bank to meet them; he had taken the money of weak women, and even of a little girl of tender years of whom he was the guardian, ostensibly for the purposes of his institute, but really for himself; he had issued canting, blasphemous appeals for the furtherance of "God's Work," and all the time he and his family had lived on the subscriptions.

Our Charges Justified.

It was in these circumstances that, in December last, we exposed him and his methods, under the heading of "A Baptist Mission Scandal," and he had the temerity to bring an action for libel. The case came before Mr. Justice Lush and a special jury of Hughes' own neighbours at the Ruthin Assizes last week, with the result mentioned above. Thus was the plea of justification we had put on the record fully vindicated, and this canting imposter, amidst the howls and execrations of his fellow citizens, slunk out of Court, painted at last in his true colours as an oily, parasitical humbug, a disgrace to old Wales, and to the older religion of which he had been so unworthy a disciple.

A Grave Lesson.

The whole case constitutes a very grave lesson, which should be taken to heart by those persons, possessing more money than brains, who seem to imagine that special merit attaches to the giving of money to missions to black people living thousands of miles away, while the poor and starving at home perish in suffering and want. It fully bears out what we have frequently said as to the moral worthlessness of many of those who leave these shores, ostensibly to bring Christianity to black people, but really in order to feather their own nests. The greed, rapacity and immorality of such "missionaries" have had a very injurious effect upon the aborigines and have resulted in the term "native Christian" being regarded as a synonym for liar and thief—if not something even worse.

We hope that Hughes will have the decency to hide his diminished head, and try, if he can, by way of a change, to earn an honest living.

We take this opportunity of returning our thanks to the many readers who have congratulated us upon the result of the trial.

A REAL Cricket Competition. See page 812.

ILL DONE, WELLDON!

A PILL FOR MR. BEECHAM.

The Dean of Manchester, who was a failure as Headmaster of Harrow and Bishop of Calcutta—whose career, indeed, has been one long succession of failures—now puts the coping-stone to it. He has issued a violent protest against the appearance of Mr. Beecham as conductor of one of last season's concerts. The first impression, of course, would be that there was something wrong with Mr. Beecham's ear, or that he waved his stick too vigorously. That would have been strange, as Mr. Beecham is acknowledged to be one of the greatest conductors of the time.

But it is still more surprising to learn the real reason —we nearly said the pretext. Mr. Beecham happens to have been co-respondent in a divorce case last November. Therefore, according to this decanal desperado, he must be barred. Nay, it is not enough to punish him for an offence which has already involved him in costs at the Courts; music-lovers must put up with an inferior conductor.

In our innocence, we did not imagine that anyone was the better or the worse for the private indiscretions of a conductor, either of a concert or an omnibus. Indeed, it is not customary to converse with the former even as with the latter. He has no opportunity of corrupting us by his views about promiscuous affections; he has even very little time during a performance to leer at his audience and so engage the affections of susceptible flappers. As his back is turned to us, he cannot appeal to our emotions. Yet, according to Dr. Welldon, all the non-sinners at a concert ought to vie with one another for the privilege of casting the first stone. Even so, why restrict morality to conductors? Why not insist that every singer at a concert should produce a certificate of good conduct before being permitted to show his face to the public?

Dr. Welldon says it is "a miserable view" that art has anything to do with morals. But what sort of concert should we find if virtue were regarded as more chaste than voice? Logically, of course, singers should be chosen from a moral standpoint. No need to insist upon tune from anyone who has taught in a Sunday school. The most successful pianists should be judged by their antiquity towards the joys of life. We might go even further. Dancers should find favour in proportion to their distaste for ill-gotten gowns. Even conjurers might increase their salaries by proving their ignorance of cards and blacklegs.

The Dean is not even logical in his protest, for he says: "We do not like to pry into the lives of artistes who come to Manchester. We ask no questions about them." For Heaven's sake, why not? If the participation of immoral people in a concert implies the condonation of their wickedness by everyone who comes to listen, ought not the most stringent steps to be taken to safeguard such tender consciences against risks to their immortal souls?

To sum up, Dr. Welldon is apparently so stupid that no one will attempt to take him seriously. But he reflects so little credit upon his cloth that all sensible sons of the Church will feel bound to shout: "His Deanery let another take."

MR. ISMAY AND HIS SECRETARY.

With reference to our recent "Open Letter" to Mr. Ismay on the subject of the present position of the widow of his late secretary, who perished in the *Titanic* wreck, we are assured by a relative that the firm has made every provision for the widow, "so long as she remains a widow," and we gladly give publicity to this statement.

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ORDER AT ONCE.

WANTED, A WOMAN!

THE DELIGHTS OF DUNDALK GUARDIANS.

Boards of Guardians, like Editors, seem to be considered fair game by all sorts of people who are too lazy to do their own business for themselves. This remark is prompted by a report in an Irish paper. At a meeting of the Dundalk Board of Guardians the Chairman read a letter from which we give a few elegant extracts:—

> I beg to apply to you for a woman, as I hear you have many fine strapping young girls and middle-aged women in your institution. I would like a fine, loose, healthy woman—sound in wind and limb, as the vet. says. She need not be handsome, but she must be a good plain cook, as I need not tell you that on my wages she will not have much to do with these pastries which has the tight laced hobble skirted ladies of the day suffer so much from indigestion. I should like her to be a nice singer and when the Lord blesses us with a family to be able to bring them up in a God-fearing manner.

In explanation of this impertinence we are bound to say that the writer had been offered a cottage on condition that he got married within three weeks. Even so, however, his claim upon the Board of Guardians must have tested its powers to the utmost, particularly in respect of combining looseness with a God-fearing manner.

A ROMANCE OF THE PEERAGE.

NOW THEN, WILLIAM LE QUEUX!

This is the kind of letter which reaches us by nearly every post:—"I am a constant reader of JOHN BULL, and have often wondered if you could do anything in our case. In the First place my Farther was born in Chester there seems to be some mistery about our famely which I would like to get cleared up. It is supposed that my Grandfather and Lord Crofton were brothers but there was some mystery about the birth Cirtificate and I believe there was a big law suit over the same thing. My Farther was being educated in Chester College but owing to lack of funds had to leave it. My Farther has often told us of a letter that was sent from Ireland. That letter never arrived to him, but was received by my Uncle William Preston, wine merchant, of Liverpool kept. He at once paid a visit to Ireland but was told that it was not him that was wanted it was Wm. Croften that was wanted. Had my Farther gone instead we should not be in such poverty. My mother often tried to get my farther to go to Ireland if only for our sake, but he always said No not untill he was disabled or on his death bed which he did at the last moment. Do not get confused with the familys. I will draw to a finish now." Perhaps this little bit of publicity will serve to help our correspondent to elucidate the mystery.

OH! FOR AN OFFICIAL SHORTHAND WRITER.

OVERHEARD IN ONE OF THE KING'S BENCH COURTS.

MR. BLANK, K.C. (*to witness*): When you called at plaintiff's house, who opened the door?

WITNESS: The servant.

JUDGE (*audibly—taking notes*): When—I—called—at—plaintiff's—house—servant—opened—door.

COUNSEL: Well, what happened?

WITNESS: I was shown into the back parlour.

COUNSEL: What——

JUDGE (*audibly*): —was—shown—into—back—parlour. Yes?

COUNSEL: What happened then?

WITNESS: I had some tea and then went with plaintiff to St. John's Road.

COUNSEL: What——

JUDGE (*audibly*): —went—with—plaintiff—to—St.—John's—Road. Yes?

COUNSEL: What time would that be?

JUDGE (*interposing*): I just want to see if my note is correct. (*Reading*): "When I called at plaintiff's house," etc., etc., etc. Is that correct?

COUNSEL (*resignedly*): Yes, my lord.

A Test Match competition. See page 805.

THE TRANSPORT STRIKE.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR ITS SETTLEMENT.

It is nothing short of a national scandal that this strike has not yet been settled. First, we had the wage settlement, following the dispute of last year; then came arbitration to decide questions which had arisen under the first settlement; then came an appeal to the Courts, with the famous decision of the Lord Chief Justice; then came a further dispute, and then, on the suggestion of the Government, Sir Edward Clarke's Enquiry. Following his Report, there have been innumerable conferences between the Cabinet and the respective sides, and now, as the ultimate outcome of the negotiations, the Government has appealed to the recently formed Industrial Council. Meanwhile, the transport trade of the country is in a state of utter disorganisation and hundreds of thousands of men, women and children are on the verge of starvation.

Every day we are told that the limit of resistance on the part of the men has been reached, and that they are "rapidly returning to work." On the other hand, as recently as Sunday last we saw Trafalgar Square crowded with transport workers, whilst we have good reason to believe that the financial resources of the various unions are equal to a further prolonged struggle. We, therefore, have to face the position that, unless a sane and reasonable solution is at once found, the present state of affairs will not only continue but will grow from bad to worse for several weeks to come—always with the danger over our heads of the men getting thoroughly out of hand.

In these circumstances, surely it is not beyond the range of possibility that a settlement can be arrived at. We have done our best to ascertain the exact temperament of the strike leaders, and it is only fair to them to say that they are in no way lacking in a sense of the responsibility which rests upon them. They, however, point out with great force that whenever they have expressed their readiness to come to terms the employers have, at the last moment, drawn back; they point to the Lord Chief Justice's judgment as being in their favour, and also to the award of the arbitration and the findings of Sir Edward Clarke's Court. At the same time, they are not unmindful of both the public inconvenience and the intense suffering involved in a continuance of the strike, and we do not hesitate to say that unless an adjustment is concluded within the next two or three days a golden opportunity will have been lost.

In these circumstances, we make an earnest appeal to both sides. There is in the Industrial Council a tribunal already at hand, the constitution of which is, we believe, satisfactory to all parties, being equally representative of capital and labour, with an impartial chairman at its head, and we suggest that both parties to the present dispute should agree to abide by the decision of that Council in regard to the rate of wages to be paid to the transport workers—which is really the crucial point now in dispute. We are not, of course, in a position to speak for either side, but we are not without some reason for confidence when we say that we believe the responsible leaders of the men would not view this proposal unfavourably, and we are now doing our best to press it upon the employers.

As to our own position, it is simply that of the ordinary business man, desirous of seeing the trade of the country proceeding without interruption and of finding, at any rate, a temporary palliative to this constant labour unrest. We do not disguise from ourselves the fact that something very different to the pettifogging expedients of the Party system and class prejudices will soon have to be devised if anything like a permanent remedy is to be found. Meantime, however, a bargain is a bargain, and surely it should be a simple matter for the Industrial Council to decide who is attempting to break it and to see that, in future, it is honourably observed.

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NOT "PLAYING THE GAME IN THE WEST."

BANGOR BUMBLES "BEST" A BOY.

The Sanitary Committee of Bangor do not seem to have been playing the game. There appears to be no doubt that by every consideration of fairness, to say nothing of consideration of public decency, David Reuben, of Farrae Street, is entitled to the post of junior clerk in the office of Public Health.

The Council had advertised; the clear condition of appointment was by competitive examination; Sir Henry Lewis was nominated to conduct the examination of upwards of thirty applicants; Reuben came out far ahead of all others; and yet the Sanitary Committee had the temerity to recommend, and the Council the weakness to agree to the recommendation, another lad after members of the Council had been canvassed right and left on his behalf. We are told that councillors even sent parents to request the favour of the influence of the Mayor. One after another the members jumped up in Council to make solemn denial that they had been influenced by this canvassing—though we are sorry that the information in our possession does not enable us to credit their denial. Indeed, it could hardly be expected that these councillors, having done this injustice by the repudiation of what were practically their specific public pledges, would make solemn confession to the Council, "Certainly we were influenced by this canvassing, and we appointed an unsuccessful candidate in the examination because of it." It would be absurd to suppose anything of the sort, for that would stigmatise their favouritism.

It is amazing that men with the smallest pretence to public spirit and right-thinking should do a wrong such as this—especially to a boy—and the least the Council can do is to compensate his disappointment by finding him another place in their service.

FIRE AT SEA.

NO SMOKING IN CABINS WITHOUT DANGER OF FIRE.

Having issued a warning about insufficient boat accommodation when the *Olympic* was launched, it occurs to us that stress should be laid upon the danger of fire on ships.

No doubt we shall have legislation on this point so soon as it has been proved by experience that a "fireproof" ship can be burnt. But we like to get a little bit in advance of legislators, so we venture to urge that steps should be taken at least to enforce existing regulations.

At present, there is scarcely any ship where the male passengers, some of whom may be the worse for drink, do not smoke in their cabins and other inflammable places. Notices are put up prohibiting such conduct, but they are allowed to become a dead letter.

Remonstrate with the steward, and he will tell you that he would only be insulted if he drew the passengers' attention to the rules.

Ask a ship's officer and he will tell you that competition is too great for a company to prosecute an objectionable passenger.

Write a letter to the Board of Trade and you will be informed that "it appears that smoking is prohibited in the cabins and saloons of the company's steamers, but at the same time they find it very difficult to prosecute when the rule is infringed as, upon a remonstrance being made, the smoking is never persisted in . . . and in the company's opinion there is no danger to the safety of the vessel from this cause."

Then why trouble to have regulations made?

We confess we never heard of a theatrical manager who could not prevent smoking in his theatre, or even of a tramway conductor who had any hesitation about enforcing rules. We wonder what the County Council would say to Mr. George Edwardes if everybody puffed tobacco in the stalls, and he replied that it was very difficult to do anything, because, upon remonstrance being made, smoking was never persisted in, and, in his opinion, there was no danger to the safety of the Gaiety Theatre from this cause!

£100 for two correct scores. See page 805.

IRISH SPIRITS.

HILARIOUS HOOLIGANS AT TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.

By HERBERT VIVIAN.

There may not be one law for the rich and another for the poor, but a very different attitude is habitually taken when different classes run riot. Think of the torrents of indignation belched forth by apostles of law and order when strikers stop a lady's cab for a minute or chase a blackleg into a river. They may be full of hunger and grievances, their whole industrial future may be threatened, they are only maintaining such rights of labour as were acknowledged in the days of mediæval guilds. But they are expected to suffer in silence, turn their cheeks, bend knees, confine their persuasion to something so peaceful that it would not alarm a mouse or a maid.

Now for another picture. Look at the mild, benevolent indulgence which is meted out to rowdy wretches, who qualify for a bedside manner by overturning our statues and brawling in our streets; to the raw ruffians of Oxford and Cambridge who take Guy Fawkes for their patron saint and start conflagrations in courts or quads; even to the hideous Hooligans of Trinity College, whose annual outrages turn Dublin into a pandemonium. "Dear me, what high spirits!" "Well, well, boys will be boys!" That is the sort of smiling murmur which greets the worst brutality of cowardly young blackguards. What a shame to spoil their healthy, manly sport! How Puritanical, how Pharisaical to check the merry madness of fine young fellows, whose blue blood and heavy purses illustrate their prescriptive right to rule the Empire!

I have before me a report of their celebration of Fellowship Examination Day in Dublin on the 3rd of June. They began their genial festivities by running and roaring about the city in huge droves, seizing cabs, holding up passengers, molesting inoffensive individuals, bawling bosh from commandeered carts, filling all the main streets with their foolish frenzies. At last the disorder was deemed too disgraceful even for Dublin, which has always been tolerant of tumult. The noisy boys were pushed back into their college, gates were bolted and barred upon them. Then they relieved their high Irish spirits by making a bonfire of other people's chairs. Tiring of this aristocratic and intellectual pastime, they climbed railings, burst gates and began a real riot. Every policeman's head was a fair target for a bludgeon, preferably if it could be applied when he was not looking. Helmets were stolen as trophies, uniforms were torn to ribbons and drenched with rotten eggs. Trams were expugnated and robbed of destination boards, which will doubtless be handed down as heirlooms in the first families of Ireland.

What high spirits! There was no grievance, not even hunger, to excuse it. All fun! I wonder whether constables, groaning in hospital from the effects of dastards' blows in the back, entered into the humour of all the exuberant hilarity.

THE LOT—AND LITTLE—OF THE BARMAID.

SPIERS AND POND'S ATTENDANTS' SIXPENNY LODGINGS.

Since the first of this month the young ladies employed at the various branches of Messrs. Spiers and Pond have been compelled to sleep out, instead of on the premises, the small sum of 3s. 6d. weekly being allowed as compensation. Considering that they do not leave till midnight and that many of them have to go long distances to reach lodgings procurable for so humble a sum, it is obvious that the new arrangement must have put them to very great inconvenience and discomfort. The explanation given by the firm is that they cannot afford to pay the Inhabited House Duty!

ONE WORD.

Do not throw away the inset to this week's issue. It is all about "Brainine"—the wonderful Brain Food, and Nerve Recharger. All Chemists.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CXCIX.

[*In this column, every week, we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.*]

A WIDOW'S WOES.

We have received a very sad letter from a poor widow. Deserted by her husband some long time ago and left without any resources whatever, she endeavoured to keep the home together. But her child was stricken down with pneumonia, and through nursing it she herself was taken with double pneumonia and pleurisy. After twelve weeks in hospital she was discharged, to find that her little home—all her belongings—had been sold by her landlord for arrears of rent. She also heard that her husband had been buried a month before. She is now in one room, and for the want of some pecuniary assistance is unable to carry out a few orders for dresses which she has received. Once started, this poor woman will be able to continue and thus provide for the maintenance of herself and child.

We have received the following amounts, which we have forwarded to the "Human Documents" named:—

CXCII.—E. B., 5s.
CXCV.—K. and G., 1s.; E. P., 5s.
CXCVI.—K. and G., 1s.; E. B., 5s.
CXCVII.—E. B., 5s.; A. M. W., 1s.; "Margaret Anne," 6d.; R. C., 1s.; J. H. N. 2s. 6d.; K. and G., 1s.; "Tom," 5s.; "Swinny," 1s.; "X.6," 2s. 6d.; H. W., 10s.; "Aid," 1s. 6d.; "Tripoli," 2s. 6d.; "Nemo," 1s.; "Mrs. Jim," 10s.

The 8s. 11½d. apportioned to Human Document No. CXCIII. out of our collecting boxes has been forwarded to No. CXCVIII., as the former is, we are pleased to say, now in a regular situation at a good wage.

OUR COLLECTING BOXES.

By the kindness of many of our readers we are enabled to add to our "Human Document" fund by means of collecting boxes, which they are good enough to place on their premises. We shall be glad to hear from others willing to assist in this work.

LONDON.—Mr. H. N. Morgan, 225, High Street, Shoreditch, 1s.; Mr. J. A. Harris, Beehive, Christian Street, Commercial Road, E., 3d.; Mr. W. H. Courtledge, 39, St. Leonard's Road, Bromley, 1d.; Mr. A. Pink, Bell, 136, High Street, Shoreditch, 2s.; Mr. H. Lane, African Tavern, Poplar, 4d.; Mr. E. Gilforth, King's Arms, 357, Cable Street, Stepney, 6d.; Mr. P. Ellis, Crown and Sceptre, Woolmore Street, Poplar, 2s. 4½d.; Mr. D. Brackman and Son, 202, Jubilee Street, Mile End, 5d.; Mr. V. Wrigglesworth, Aberfeldy, Poplar, 2s. 7d.; Mr. W. M. Hill, Crown, Mayfield Road, Dalston, 7d.; Mr. A. E. Gilbert, City Arms, Devons Road, Bow, 5d.; Mr. J. Booth, 273, Kingsland Road, Shoreditch, 2d.; Mr. W. Blyth, Bell and Mackerell, 333, Mile End Road, E., 3d.; Mr. G. H. Dawson, Anchor and Hope, 41, West Ferry Road, Millwall, 10d.; Mr. A. Johnson, Distillers' Arms, 28, Hancock Road, Bromley, 1d.; Mr. H. Arnold, City of Canton, 2, Upper North Street, Poplar, 1s.

Total, 12s. 10½d., which we have allocated to CXCVII.

BOUNTIES FOR THE OLD BRIGADE.

MR. GEORGE LEYTON'S £5,000.

Last week we inserted a paragraph about "insulted veterans," protesting that it was humiliating to see our old soldiers exhibited on music-halls when they should be maintained in the lap of luxury by a grateful country. We do not depart from this view, but another aspect is provided by Mr. George Leyton, who sings "Lucknow," "The Last Muster," and other heroic ballads with a number of veterans gathered round him on the stage. Out of the profit of special booklets he has prepared he divides some £20 a week between local Crimea and Indian Mutiny heroes wherever he goes, and in addition distributes large sums to local Veteran Associations, over £5,000 having been thus disbursed by him during the last six years. We congratulate Mr. Leyton on his splendid combination of song and philanthropy, and our only regret is that any of the old brigade should ever have to rely upon such private efforts for their comforts.

A REAL Cricket Competition. See page 805.

LETTERS FROM JANE ANN.

[Being communications from a young person to her friends and relations.]

By MOORE ANKING.

IPURROO HOUSE,
BALLYFYNE.

MY OWN DE-LIGHTFUL BERTRAM,—Your loving letter reeched me this morning, darling, soon's I was dressed. Should have de-manded it much earlier, dearest, but the passidges being so drafty I might have got a chill, and one never knows who may be wan-dering at early morn.

I been doing hardly anything all day, dear, only reading your joyful patter over and over again, and pressing the en-velope to my collar-ette. To-morrow, love, all being well, I hope to be simmilarly engaged.

The fotograf of your-self which you enclosed might easy be taken for you, dear, though the lower por-shun appears to be a blank. Worst of these tuppenny por-traits, Bert, they seem to leave out all the ro-tundity. Mother had one taken with her speck-tackles on. Made her look like a shop-window with no means of support. I wanted mother to sue the stickyback man for libel, but do you think she would? No. Over and over again have I said Ma, you got tons and tons of evvi-dence to put before the jury, why don't you stand on your dig-nitty? But all I could get her to say was No Jane, that isn't what it was sent for.

Looking at your picksher in another direckshun, Bert dear, seems to me the eyes are just the least little bit too brill-yant. You ought to have given your lunch longer time to settle, pet.

One of the girls here, jellus I s'pose of our moochual affeckshun, pet, showed me a por-trait of two female friends of hers. Told me they lived at Parsley, where the sauce comes from—or p'raps it was Paysley, if there is such a place. Oh dear, Bert, such feechers! I reelly didn't think the law allowed them, it can't be kindness that per-mits them to wander forth. P'raps there don't happen to be a mewseeum in their districkt, or mebbe they live under-ground and only come out when the drains get stopped.

The girl who knew the creechers asked me what would be best to send them for a birth-day present. Did I think it right and proper she should send them some crewel-work? My answer was, No dear, they have been badly treeted already. So at last she thought p'raps a bottle of per-fume would be more cor-rect, and I quite agreed. Told her to send them a nice large bottle of pe-trollyum and a box of matches. But I wasn't think-ing so much of her two friends, dear, I was thinking of the releef to the com-munity.

Talking of life's trubbles and trials, angelic one, fancy your manidger saying the har-ness don't look over bright. Wonder what he takes you for, dearest—a man or a tin of pol-lish? How would he like having to em-bellish his knickers with sitting round on kegs of nails and other com-modities, and getting bumped across bits of new road 'thout the slightest warning. He'd soon shreek for proper seats and cushions in the van, wouldn't he, ducky? Yes, I know he would. I reelly don't know how you sur-vive the strain and the wear and tear, angel, I'm sure I couldn't.

And then again about things falling off the van, eggs and so forth. As if you could always tell which way they're going to roll when the box upsets. He can't be human, I shouldn't think. People have no business to send such stuff the way they do. Proper way to carry eggs is to put them in a little basket with pink paper round the edges and plenty of fresh air.

I dreamed three times we were married, Bert, made me late down each morning and I didn't like to say what kept me. Such a love of a home, pet, something in every room. And no rent to pay, either the landlord forgot to call or you were out of work. Can't remember which now, all I know is we were very comf'table. Made me that ex-cited you wouldn't bleeve. If you should dream sim-milar, own one, don't put the de-tails in a letter. I'd much rather wait for them.

x x x Yours over with love, x x

JANE ANN.

"A THOUSAND YEARS AGO"—OR THEREABOUTS.

By "RETLAW."

We are given to understand that in consequence of the splendid success of the recent "Hundred Years Ago" Costume Ball, arrangements are being made for holding a similar function to illustrate and depict the fashions, styles, and most famous characters of a thousand years back. It is rumoured—upon insufficient foundation, we fear—that the following celebrities will attend the ball in character:—

MR. BONAR LAW will appear as ÆTHELSTAN, who defeated a coalition of Irish, Scots, and Welsh at Brunanburh in 937.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR will appear in the character of WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.

MR. WILLIAM O'BRIEN is arranging to represent BRIAN BORUMA, King of Munster (976); and it is the intention of MR. JOHN REDMOND to depict the same character when at the height of his fame (1002) as King of All Ireland.

MR. H. H. ASQUITH is considering whether he shall appear in the character of CANUTE, seated in a chair, and vainly ordering the waves of public opinion in favour of Business Government to retire.

MR. SYDNEY BUXTON, being President of the Board of Trade, may assume the character of ETHELRED THE UNREADY.

LORD HALDANE, it is said, is anxious to represent HAROLD, the last deluded Saxon King, and hopes to enter the Ball Room in the train of William the Conqueror (the German Emperor).

SIR JOSEPH LYONS desires to appear as KING ALFRED THE GREAT, toasting tea-cakes in the peasant's hut when in hiding from the Danes, but we fear considerable difficulties would attend such an elaborate representation.

MR. RUNCIMAN, full of ardour for his new Cabinet post, was anxious to represent AGRICOLA; but the Committee point out that this character carries back considerably more than 1,000 years—a fact which Mr. Runciman, having given up the Presidency of the Board of Education several weeks ago, had quite forgotten.

MRS. PANKHURST, had she been "out" in time, meant to give a realistic representation of BOADICEA, and to make a stirring "votes for women" speech from her scythed chariot. But, alas! the strong arm of the Law has rudely thrust itself between her and her desires.

MRS. PETHICK LAWRENCE, too, had decided to appear as QUEEN ELFRIDA administering a cup of poison (or Corfe drop) to Edward the Martyr (typifying the present Government).

What are Mr. Lloyd George's and Mr. Winston Churchill's intentions we have not yet been informed, but we have reason to believe that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will appear in the guise of one of the Danish pirates and free-booters who devastated the shores of England 1,000 years ago.

"JOHN BULL" AS THE PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE.

GREAT SUCCESS OF A NEW SONG.

For some little time past Mr. Fred Arthur, the well-known music-hall comedian, has been singing a clever song by Mr. Gilbert Wells, entitled "I must write to JOHN BULL about it," and we understand it has been going with a bang. Here is a specimen of one of the lighter verses and chorus:—

I've been thinking of late that the world is all wrong—
I'm wretched, I'm dicky, I'm feeling off song.
Why I, who should live on the fat of the land,
Should dine on a bloater I can't understand.
Asparagus six bob a bundle!
What's that to a fellow like me?
I'm the *ass* and the *Gus*, and the *sparrow*,
For I'm poor as a sparrow, d'you see?

CHORUS.

I must write to JOHN BULL about it, and see if he'll put matters right—
Here's a fellow like me—quite the thing, you'll agree—
Fairly cornered for want of the crude £ s. d.!
Other people are rolling in riches—
Why should *I* be expelled from their school?
Old Age Pensions, I think, should be paid in advance—
I shall cer'ainly write to JOHN BULL!

£100 for the Test Match top scores.

ONE MAN'S MEAT.

AN ALLEGORY OF HOME RULE.

By RICHARD MORTON.

John Smith had a bad half-hour the other night. John is just an ordinary, easy-going Londoner, a decent fellow, doing no harm to anybody, and not much good either. He prides himself on taking things as he finds them; he objects to alterations, because they mean trouble. He is a man in a groove, and quite content to stay there.

There are lots of John Smiths just like him in the world, but to no other has befallen the remarkable experience which is now to be placed on record.

John was sitting quietly over the embers of the fire, puffing at his last pipe before joining his wife in their bedroom upstairs, when a strange man walked unceremoniously in and established himself in the principal armchair.

"What the dickens—who the——?" gasped John.

"You know me," said the burly stranger. "If you don't, you ought to. I am your predominant partner. I am also your big brother."

"You are no relative of mine," said John Smith, "and what you want here is more than I can imagine."

"I have come to manage your house and affairs for you," announced his visitor.

John Smith could hardly believe his ears. "Oh, have you?" he gasped. "Not if I know it."

"But you do know it, and you *will* know it. I am telling you now, for your information. I am going to regulate what you eat and what you drink. I shall expel your servant and put in one of my own. I am going to direct your affairs, and shall allow you to do nothing in your house without consulting me. On the other hand, I shall do lots of things in your house without consulting you. I shall rule you and your wife and your children."

"If you can rule my wife, you are clever," sighed John.

Ignoring the matrimonial jape, the intruder proceeded: "You will have to do just as I tell you, because you are completely under my thumb. I don't say that now and then I may not allow you a few little privileges, if you ask for them properly, but what you must understand is that I am boss of the show. You will at once hand over to me the complete control of your affairs—business, household, financial, fiscal, commercial, moral, and otherwise. Got that into your head?"

"Yes," said John Smith, "but where do *I* come in? What do *I* do?"

"You do just as I tell you. You are to be ruled by me; you are to have no mind of your own, no income, no voice in the management of your own household. See?"

"I see," cried John; "but I'm jiggered if I agree. What do you take me for? Do you think I'm going to sit down in my own house like a frog and have you doing just what you please with me and mine?"

"You may not like it, but you must put up with it. I have the law on my side, and you cannot get rid of me."

Then John cried, "An Englishman's house is his castle, sir, and this is my castle, and I'm king of the castle, so out you go before I——!"

He had raised his voice to a high pitch, but he clearly heard his wife knocking on the floor overhead.

"Yes, dear?" he stammered.

"Aren't you coming to bed?"

"Yes, dear," said John, meekly, for he knew he had dropped off to sleep in his chair and had dreamed an ugly dream.

* * * * * *

The next evening John Smith met his friend Jack Brown and grabbed him by the arm. "Come with me," he said, "and see the fun."

"What's up?" asked Jack Brown.

"Only a Home Rule meeting at the Town Hall," said John Smith. "I'm going to join the opposition and help to kick up a shindy. Fancy these Irish beggars wanting to manage their own affairs! Home Rule, indeed!"

EXTREMES MEET.

TALKS IN THE TU'PENNY TUBE.

By "RETLAW."

MRS. 'AWKINS: Drat the train! 'Ow it do throw a body about, to be sure! I 'ope I didn't 'urt you, lady, w'en I dropped me bundle. It was ether that or the blessed babby

LADY VERE: Aw—it's quite all right.

MRS. 'AWKINS (sighing deeply): Oh, dear! I didn't oughter be 'ere reely by rights, lady—me in the train at this time o' day with a bundle and a babby in me arms. But wot's a body to do?

LADY VERE: I—aw—beg pardon?

MRS. 'AWKINS: That's orl right, lady—you didn't do nothink. I wos a-sayin' I reely oughter be 'ome, scrubbin' the 'ouse down instead of sittin' 'ere with a bundle of tailor's garmints in one arm and the nipper—bless 'is little 'eart!—in the other. But wot's a body to do these times?

LADY VERE: I—aw—I'm afraid I don't understand.

MRS. 'AWKINS: That's jest it, lady—nobody don't prop'ly understand. S'posin' yore 'usban—beggin' yore pardon for bein' so free—was to come 'ome to-night an' say 'e wosn't goin' to work to-morrow—and you with a 'ome to keep a-goin' and a babby to feed?

LADY VERE: I—aw—reahlly can't imagine anything so—er—complicated.

MRS. 'AWKINS: Well, that's wot my Bill done. And a steadier chap you never wish to see. Weeks ago it was now, lady; and 'e ain't done a stroke since.

LADY VERE: Reahlly? I've often heard the working classes are—aw—lazy.

MRS. 'AWKINS: Lazy? My Bill lazy? No fear! 'E's one of the best. Tike it from me. 'E 'adn't got no 'elp for it. "Lizzie," 'e ses, "I ain't a-goin' to work ter-morrer. I'm on strike." 'E's a lighterman, lady, you see.

LADY VERE: A lighterman? What is that? Lighter than what?—or whom?

MRS. 'AWKINS: *You* know, lady—'e works on barges. Makes good money, too, w'en 'e's at it; and as steady as a rock. "Wotjer mean?" I ses to 'im. "Wotjer goin' on strike for?" "I don't know zactly," 'e ses. "Any'ow, we've got orders from 'eadquarters to come out, so we're comin' out ter-morrer." "But wot about the 'ome an' the nipper?" I ses. "'Ow are we a-goin' to keep them a-goin'?" "Carn't 'elp that," 'e ses. "We've got our orders from the leaders and we've gotter come out. There's some grievances." "But you 'aven't got no grievances, 'ave you, Bill?" I ses. "No," ses 'e. "I ain't got no grievances." "Then you go to work as usual," I ses, "an' don't be led away by a lot o' schemin' agitaters wot never do a stroke of honest work theirselves." "I dussent," 'e ses, "they would do me in. You don't wanter corpse for a 'usband, do you, Liz?" So you see, lady, I 'ad to put me shoulder to the w'eel, as the sayin' is, and do a bit o' tailorin'—finishin', an' sich like—like wot I use to do afore I married Bill. But the 'ome 's orl upside down, and the babby's got a narsty corf—'cos I ain't got the time to look after 'em. It's rough luck—that's wot it is. We wos gittin' on nice an' comferble afore; but now I don't know wot's a-goin' to 'appen.

LADY VERE: Is this Bond Street?

CONDUCTOR: Yes, mum.

LADY VERE'S garments: Swish—swish—swish—swish.

A BAD LAW AND BAD BUSINESS.

THE HARSHNESS OF PRIMOGENITURE.

As the law at present stands, if a man dies intestate his eldest son inherits all his real (freehold) property, except in certain counties. In most cases this is quite contrary to the wishes of the deceased, and is almost invariably totally unfair. Several cases have been brought to our notice where a family has worked together for years in a business, and the profits have been invested in the father's name in freehold property. On the father dying intestate the eldest son has taken the lot, and thus obtained the benefit of the joint work of the whole family. This is obviously inequitable, and it is now up to some public-spirited M.P. to introduce a Bill whereby real property shall devolve in the same manner as personal.

England and Australia. **£100 for someone.**

"OH DEAR!"

By Jim Crow.

[Mr. James Crow is our Licensed Crank. A brilliant exponent of unconventional ideas—invariably distorted and lacking in perspective, cynical and epigrammatic in expression—he is a journalistic cat amongst the pigeons. We accept no responsibility for his opinions—or his life.]

To-day for a change I intend to allow myself the privileges of chattering. As a rule I give you good measure of prophecy or advice or menace or supplication, and I either tell you to be drunk or to be sober, to carouse or to refrain from coquetting. Now I have chosen so elusive a title for my paper that you cannot complain or accuse me of irresponsibility if I wander away from my exclamation.

An Euphemistic Expletive.

This exclamation is not an objurgation. When you say, "Oh dear!" (I put it down to you because I would never say anything so senseless myself) you are indulging in mild impatience, you are not to be compared with ruffians who imperil their immortal souls by saying, "Too bad!"

Prim Parlance.

When I was young it was the habit to write "Sir" to a stranger and sign yourself his obedient servant. Nowadays, most people put "Dear" when they write to their enemies. Of course, there is something to be said for flattering, hoaxing, hocussing, playing with enemies, calling them "dear," perhaps even "dearest" and "darling," if only you can reduce them to a state of obedience. If I smelled a £1,000 note, I would consider myself justified in abasing myself on paper, in signing myself "Your Most Abject Slave," "Your Most Grovelling Worm," "Your Snivelling Servant," so that I might touch the coins and go off to carouse with the Beloved. And yet there is a certain humiliation, a prick of the conscience, when we are unduly civil to persons who ought to be buffeted.

The Magic of Mildness.

"Oh dear," however, like "Too bad," does cover a multitude of sins. I really think I shall have to adopt it as a remark at moments of extreme annoyance. When you come to think of it, ordinary oaths do not mean very much more; they annoy puritanical people like myself, and they involve risks of being dragged off to the police station. How much simpler, when somebody treads on your toe or bangs you in the eyeball or runs away with your wife, to ejaculate, "Oh dear!" leaving offensive expressions to the imagination. Curses may or may not come back to roost, but at any rate they do very little harm to the cursed. Why waste steam?

Dearness and Delicacy.

"Dear" has become a silly word. It is employed in letters by men writing to their moneylenders, women to their parlourmaids, co-respondents to petitioners. "Love" is the synonym for "nothing" at tennis. "Dear" has become the synonym for less than nothing in commercial correspondence. What an outrage, what a monstrosity, what an insult to all the decencies of caligraphy!

Impudent Insult.

The kiss of Judas is almost honourable compared with some of the "dears" which I have found in letters from abominable enemies. For my own part I should be quite content to eliminate all the "dears" from correspondence. To write "Dear Sir, I am surprised that you have not sent me the £100 you owe me; please let me have it by return of post," is almost as foul an outrage as to take a man by the throat, gouge out both his eyes, stuff fir-cones into his ears, pierce his tongue with a corkscrew, kick him in the most vulnerable portion of his anatomy and then call him "Dear Sir."

The Curse of Costliness.

Dear is unfortunately used to convey an impression of expensiveness. Of course, there are a certain number of people who imagine that anything expensive is worth seeking; that is why ladies with artificial complexions, glittering diamonds, and tortoiseshell tiaras have so much success. That is why we buy them big banquets, caviare, gold purses, all sorts of useless things, whereas if they were radiant flappers relying only upon their natural beauty, we should grudge them a bun or a glass of beer. When the good days come, when the revolution has been accomplished, when the lives of men, women and children are ordained and dragooned by agitators, I shall put in a claim for the reformation of the British language also. The word "dear" must never be allowed to suggest pounds, shillings and pence; that is mere vulgarity, snobbery, middle-class insolence. I am not, of course, advocating cheapness in respect of wine or flirtation or any other luxury.

Amatory Associations.

Let me beg you to treat the word "dear" respectfully, as almost worthy of connection with the Beloved. It is largely a matter of intonation. You may express it so casually that it resembles an insult. You may murmur it over your morning tea without the faintest expectation of kisses. Then again you may associate it with capable caresses, rapturous pressure of trembling hands, the voluptuous biting of quivering lips. Oh dear, what nonsense we talk just now in these dark days, when love means as little in actual life as it does at lawn tennis, when we have to give pheasants to our bank manager, when everything is sordid and wretched and cold and calculating. How useless it is to think of anything altruistic! Still, when you grovel on the carpet, when you fawn and lick hands like a courtier, you do and may raise yourself to the seventh heaven by murmuring "dear" as an emphatic orison, sing it in her ear, whistle it in the confusion of her ruddy locks, shout it upon the housetops, even when her fairy features are only a distant mirage. Surely it will have an echo, reverberating Marconi messages from brain to heart, all along the spine and sciatic nerve.

Sweetness and Subtlety.

"Oh dear!" is full of possibilities as an emphatic ejaculation, as a confession of cringing, as a capitulation. I am not sure that it is quite satisfactory as an objurgation. The person who would use it is slapped in the eye or trodden on the corn or refused the support of free and independent electors as beneath contempt. I am all for the dissimulation of feeling. When I want to murder somebody I am quite content to say "Too bad," even when the foulest, rudest oaths may be seething and raving in my black blood. Here again the question of intonation comes in. You say "Too bad" with sufficient emphasis to put the fear of God into the souls of Philistines, whereas another ill-used and humbled expletive like "Hang" or "Pish," does no damage.

The mistake of most loose livers is that they fail to appreciate the potency of apparently mild language. They think that because a word is supposed to be bad it must necessarily be terrible. They should rely more upon their evil eyes than the sharpness of monotonous tongues.

Glorious News.

I suppose you know by this time—the whisper must have filtered through the clubs and set long ears tingling in the market places—that I have written a book. It is to be called "The Book of the Revelations of Jim Crow," and it is to be published by Messrs. J. and J. Bennett, of 8, Henrietta Street, in the precincts of Covent Garden, at the price of 1s. nett, with a luxurious edition bound in cheap cloth for the modest sum of 2s. 6d. Encourage me, my dears, and I will bring out another book, teach you everything that is known about wickedness in high places and the virtue of the slums, and I will call it "Oh dear, what can the matter be?" But I do not promise to do anything of the kind unless you undertake to buy at least a million copies. By the way, there will be a prize, a bounty—call it what you will—for the purchaser of the millionth copy of my Book of Revelations. I have already numbered it and entrusted it to the keeping of Jane Ann, who verily shall have her reward.

Oh! D——!

Oh dear, what a nuisance it is to have to fill two columns of this unfortunate paper when I have nothing to say! This apparently foolish remark is introduced to illustrate the uses of the supererogatory expression which entitles this paper. When you have nothing to say, you will naturally take refuge in such doddering drivel as "Oh, dear!" but you may console yourself with the reflection that it soothes susceptibilities, it is incapable of irritating the most irritable, and it possesses a whole gamut of unrecognised possibilities. I am not sure that the French for once do not go one better when they smack their thighs and lick their lips and say, "Oh la-la!"

Are you interested in Cricket? If so, see page 805.

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OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To Sir Frederick Milner.

DEAR SIR FREDERICK,—I read your speech at the Royal Sanitary Institute the other day with more than ordinary sympathy and more than ordinary interest—sympathy for you in the physical disqualifications and distresses your own increasing deafness put upon you, interest because you voiced an amazement I have expressed over and over again, that the State which does so much for persons of normal constitution and well able to earn their own living, does practically nothing for the deaf, the dumb, the blind, and the cripples, who are handicapped at every point at which they come in contact with the world.

Even when they are reduced by sheer necessity to trusting to a dog and a "tin-can," a raucous accordion or a penny whistle, the policeman in "the hexecution of 'is dooty" has no compunction in running them in for begging or placing themselves in a position for receiving alms. When we have done with some of this monstrous Party cant and humbug we shall probably think a little more as a State of directing the studies and organising and utilising the labour of these poor afflicted people, instead of leaving them to the casual and attenuated mercies of private philanthropy. You are doing your share in pressing forward that day.

JOHN BULL.

To Dr. J. Meredith and Colonel W. S. Baldock, J.P.'s, Wellington, Somerset.

INJUSTICES,—I wish you would buy one of the penny or halfpenny newspapers and read what Mr. Lawrie, the Deputy Chairman of London Sessions, said about brutal sentences for small offences.

"What has all this to do with us?" I hear you asking. It has this to do with you, gentlemen, that you look like being as anxious to make criminals by magisterial brutality as the judges who, from the moment of a man's first fault, never give him a chance. I am thinking of the case of the labourer Allen. A hen, belonging to a West Buckland publican, had gone into a hedge opposite and made a nest. Allen heard the hen cackle, and, crossing the road, he discovered the nest. He put his hand in the nest and took two eggs, "value twopence," as a police inspector was passing. He had not even time to eat them before the inspector pounced on him, and eventually charged him before your illustrious selves.

When I read that the police confessed that they knew of no record against the man Allen to his discredit, I marvel what can be the justification for your mental savagery towards him. The old man of 68 before Mr. Lawrie had received 50 years' imprisonment for stealing £20; this other old man of 66 before you received seven days' for stealing two eggs—not much difference when one comes to think about it.

JOHN BULL.

To Sir William Treloar, the Cripples' Friend.

DEAR SIR,—You are, I suppose, the only literal example of a carpet knight. But I think you came very near to the limit when you went over to Yankeeland and made a speech at a banquet and suggested about Mr. Roosevelt (I beg pardon, Col. Roosevelt—I forgot that all Yankees are Colonels) that it would be well if he could be forgotten for a time. Personally I should like to forget him for ever and ever, but is it wise for an ex-Lord Mayor of London to go over to a foreign country and pronounce upon the demerits of candidates for office? What should we say over here if so distinguished a person as Senator Smith came and told us that Mr. Balfour, or whoever is the new Member for South Hackney, ought to go away and lose himself? However, I forgive you, if only for that anecdote about helping some crippled children across the road, and being stopped by a policeman and asked whether you were their father. You are at heart one of the very best, and, in any case, you are a shining light of the dear old City of London—and that is enough for me!

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Andrew Carnegie, Skibo Castle, Sutherland.

DEAR LUMINARY,—I wonder why you are so fond of notoriety. The other day you were writing ridiculous letters to the papers in a spelling of your own invention. I wonder whether your rectorial constituency realises the depths of stupidity and extravagant commonplace which you contrive to import into your orations. I dare say you are quite right in advocating teetotalism, but why qualify your advice by urging young men to abstain until they become millionaires? It surely cannot be very difficult to become a millionaire, seeing that so silly a person as yourself has become one. Besides, what is the possible connection between water-bibbing and riches? No doubt the expenditure of a certain number of pennies on beer is a handicap to a poor toiler, but when millions or even thousands have been accumulated surely even the cost of champagne is insignificant. And what is your objection to smoking? I know it is a filthy habit, stains fingers and makes young ladies ill, but why criticise it on the ground that it merely amounts to "drawing smoke into the mouth only to be puffed out again"? Surely you are not suggesting that the smoke has no effect during its passage. You might as well argue that food should be discouraged because it does not remain in the system. All the same, I do not think that even your silliness was a sufficient excuse for breaking 100 chairs, firing off squibs and throwing mats about at your meeting.

JOHN BULL.

To Tod Sloan, Champion Jockey.

DEAR TOD,—I have been interested in your comments upon the shortcomings of our jockeys, still more by the angry answers of the people you have criticised. It is idle to say that your failure to maintain your position on the English Turf does not entitle you to criticise. You revolutionised modern methods of riding, and your departure "under a cloud" involved no slur upon either your skill or your integrity. Nor do I think it a sufficient retort to point out that fox-hunters and polo-players do not crouch on the necks of their animals. After all, the sole object of a race is to cover the ground as quickly as possible—jockeys are not engaged to entertain tea parties. When are you coming over here as a trainer? I do so want to win the Derby!

JOHN BULL.

To Miss Maria Lloyd.

DEAR MARIA,—The arrangements for a Royal performance which almost amounted to the creation of a Music-Hall Academy have been criticised on almost every hand, but really it is sufficient to point out that you, the greatest of all music-hall stars, have been eclipsed by a number of minor constellations, many of whom do not even belong to these islands. Some day, perhaps, I will offer a prize for an idea for an Academy of forty music-hall immortals. Meanwhile, I am content to observe that your absence has reduced the whole situation to a farce.

JOHN BULL.

To the Right Hon. Col. Seely, Secretary of State for War.

Congratulations. Appointment of Officer to War Office a step towards Business Government. But strange to see a Colonel commanding Field-Marshals! Would look better if you appointed yourself at least a General.

BULL.

Chairman, General Council Bar, London.

Notice your demand appointment another judge King's Bench. Which of you pining for job?

BULL.

Miss Malecka, London.

Delighted to hear of your release from Russian prison and expulsion from Russia. Don't you find it lovely country not to live in?

BULL.

Our Test Match prizes are worth winning. See page 806.

SWEETS FOR THE SUITE.

DAME ASQUITH (to Masters SPICER and MASTERMAN): "No, my dears, you can't come and share THESE things yet. You MUST keep your seats."

JOHN BULL. June 22nd, 1912. 467

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

THE STOCK MARKETS.

By Verax.

I was not far wrong when I predicted a revival in the South African Market, which has now come about, and is likely to make considerable progress. *Nigerian Mines* are slowly recuperating after the gambling bout, but should eventually stand at a higher level. The new commission scale enacted by the Stock Exchange Committee has evoked a storm of protest and will have to be revised, even if the efforts of a daily contemporary to establish an "Open Mart" should not be successful. A feature of some interest is a rise in *London General Omnibus Stock* to the fancy price of 400. Some important developments are impending, but whether this will justify such a high price remains to be seen. *Home Rails* have improved in view of the practical collapse of the dock strike, and I fancy that even if the dividends should have to be somewhat reduced, this will be found to have been discounted. My advice to leave *Yankee Rails* alone has been further justified by recent developments. With regard to *Canadian Pacifics*, the question arises as to whether the new issue of capital will be made at 120. This would, of course, give another bonus to stock-holders, but I have an idea that this kind of financing will have to be checked sooner or later in the case of *Canadian Railroads*. The stock markets generally are in a much better condition, and liquidation seems to be over, so that only a little buying movement will at once tell upon quotations, which are very moderate.

A Rise in Kaffirs and Rhodesians, as Foreshadowed in "John Bull"—the Magnates Bury the Hatchet—A Further Rise Imminent.

I wound up last week by expressing the view that the May output of the *Witwatersrand Mines* and the June dividends would set this market going again, and so it has happened. A much firmer tone has developed in the Kaffir Circus, and not only has the May output of the Rand proved a further high record, but the dividends also are better than last year, thus confirming the view which I took that they would show a considerable improvement. The *Village Deep* pays 7½ per cent. for the first half of 1912, against 5 per cent. for the first half of 1911. The *Bantjes* pays its maiden dividend of 5 per cent. The *Robinson Gold* again pays 12½ per cent., against 12½ per cent. for the second half of 1911, and the *New Modderfontein* pays 12½ per cent., against 12½ per cent. for the second half of 1911, and 11¼ per cent. for the first half of 1911. The *Witwatersrand Deep* had been disappointing, but pays now 12½ per cent. for the first half of 1912, as against 10 per cent. for the second half of 1911. The *Consolidated Main Reef* have raised their dividend from 3¾ per cent. to 5 per cent., and the *Van Ryn* maintains its excellent dividend of 22½ per cent. *Meyer and Charlton* pay 25 per cent., against 20 per cent., and *East Rand Props.* are paying 12½ per cent., against 10 per cent. for the second half of 1911. The *Treasury* had ceased paying dividends, but now enters the list again with 12½ per cent., while the *City and Suburban* pay 7½ per cent., against 6¼ per cent. for the second half of 1911, and 5 per cent. for the first half. An excellent *Rand Mines* dividend, moreover, is also expected, and thus it is more than probable that the upward movement which has commenced in Kaffirs will make further progress, as it must be remembered that the present is a very low level of prices, and that from the point of view of intrinsic merit a very considerable advance would be justified. In the meantime, *Rand Mines* have risen to 6⅛, *Goldfields* to 4 1/16, and *New Modderfontein* to 11⅛. With regard to the Rhodesian Market, the outlook is also much brighter. It is understood that the threatened law proceedings between one of the leading magnates and the *Goldfields Rhodesia Development* interests have been adjusted. Hence a considerable improvement in the market, which has gathered strength from the very favourable report on the *Falcon Mines* furnished by Mr. H. A. Piper, the well-known consulting engineer, who has just returned from Rhodesia. It is an open secret that he has other reports in his pocket concerning the *Shamva Mines*, the *Eldorado Banket* and others, and as these reports are published we may look for a further rise in *Goldfields Rhodesia Development* shares, now quoted 1 13-32. Diamond mines are aiso on the up-grade, and *De Beers* have improved to 19⅞.

Tin Shares Rallying at last—Have the "Bears" done their Worst?

The Nigerian Tin Market had fallen too low, and a moderate rally is in progress. There is a shrewd suspicion in usually well-informed quarters that the slump has been part-and-parcel of an organised "Bear" campaign, and that, when the time comes, there will be a dramatic change for the better in the whole situation. In fact, we hear already fresh "Bull" rumours about a large supply of native labour, while the effect of the drought is being minimised. At the present juncture I do not propose to express any decided opinion on the position, but there is little doubt but that the market is of a more or less artificial character. Thus, *Anglo-Continentals* at one time went begging at under 1, and now stand at 1¼, the purchase of quite a small number of shares sufficing to change the sentiment. *Benue* were supposed to be 1⅛ sellers at one time, and have since recovered to 2¼, and similar movements have taken place in the rest of the market. Whether all will come right in the end it is hard to say, and while there are no doubt still some prizes in the basket, I am afraid that some of the recently-floated properties will prove blanks.

Oil Market Steadily Broadening—Ural Caspian Rumours—Promising Trinidad Prospects.

The Oil-share Market continues to broaden, and I have reason to believe that a fresh fillip will be given to the consumption of fuel oil when the *Mexican Eagle's* tank steamers are ready to convey oil to Buenos Ayres for use on the Argentine railways, while, of course, the construction of oil-burning steamers is steadily proceeding. It is significant that every reaction in the leading shares, notably *Shells* and *Urals*, has been followed by a fresh improvement. As regards *Ural Caspian*, it is reported unofficially that the company has entered into contracts for the delivery, as from August next, of from 8,000 to 10,000 tons of oil monthly, at about 50s. per ton, which it is estimated will leave a profit of about 45s. per ton. The *Maikop* companies are doing equally well, and I might explain for the benefit of my readers that now that the new bores have been sufficiently protected from the intrusion of water, an early increase in the production of the *Black Sea* and *Maikop Victory* may be expected. A feature has been a substantial rise in *Maikop Pipe Line* to 12s. 6d., to the accompaniment of dividend rumours. The great Galician oil combine has been approved of by the various bodies of shareholders. It is understood that the *Consolidated Goldfields Company* will exercise its option on the *General Props. of Trinidad* at the end of the month, which should be a good thing for all the *Trinidad* oil properties, including the *Trinidad United*, which shares are still quoted at ⅝ to ¹¹⁄₁₆. A good deal of interest centres in *Cheleken Oil Fields*, now quoted at about 1½ cum dividend, and *Tcharken-Cheleken Oil Fields*, a kindred company, whose shares are about par. I hope to have special information in regard to both of these shares, and shall do my best to keep my readers informed of probable developments

Hope for Rubber Shares?—Arguments for an Improvement.

The Rubber-share Market looks more hopeful than for some time past, and, basing one's opinion on the statistical position of the commodity, there would certainly appear to be good ground for improvement. Looking at the position from another point of view, it stands to reason that manufacturers would not be paying 4s. 6d. per lb. for rubber, for delivery throughout the whole of next year, at which the *Linggi* have just sold 60 tons, and the *Pataling* 36 tons, if they were not convinced that prices would be well maintained for some time to come. Then, again, the *Pataling* has just declared an interim dividend of 50 per cent.—the same as a year ago—while the *Carey United* interim distribution is 2½ per cent. less, at 7½ per cent. I do not hold these companies up as *the* shining lights of the rubber industry, but as examples of the many advantageous investments to be made in this department at yields which make every allowance for known risks. There are also plenty of opportunities here for speculative purchases, but the course of the market in this respect must obviously depend upon the views of the "shops."

Your favourite batsman may win you £100. See page 805.

NOTES.

The Houlder Line Scandal.

We referred last week to the recent meeting of shareholders in the Houlder Line, and we now have before us what purports to be a report of such meeting issued by the directors. We fail to find, however, any reference to the several important questions which were asked: (1) To what extent would the shareholders in the Houlder Line benefit by the reduction of 2½ per cent. on the gross earnings paid to the managers? (2) What was the amount paid during the year in premiums for insurance and also what amount was collected for claims? (3) What was the real present value of the company's investments, they being taken for the purposes of the balance sheet at cost? (4) What is the real present value of the six vessels belonging to the company? (5) What was the loss sustained by the sale of the two steamships and the company's share in the *Oswestry Grange*? (6) What is the amount of preference dividend in arrear? (7) What was paid for the *Guardiana*, now called the *Sutherland Grange*, and what amount remains on mortgage to Furness, Withy and Co.? (8) To what extent does the company benefit by the sale of the Australian business, and where is the amount, if any, received shown in the balance sheet? (9) Has the right of the Houlder Line to trade between New York and Australia been sold, and, if so, for what consideration, and where does it appear in the accounts? (10) Will Houlder Bros. and Co. refund to the Houlder Line the commissions received by them for fixing contracts for freight of meat and coal, which contracts are nominally "put through" Houlder Bros.' branch houses, but are actually negotiated in London?

Life Association of Scotland.

We are sorry that an error crept into our "Insurance Replies" last week in regard to this company. By an oversight we stated that it had reeently reduced its bonus, whereas the contrary is the case, the bonus at the last quinquennial valuation showing an increase upon that declared in 1906, the whole life bonus being raised from 28s. to 30s. per cent., and the endowment bonus from 24s. to 30s.

Pearl Life Office.

Hitherto we have directed our main attention to the Prudential office, so far as Industrial Assurance is concerned, but from a large number of enquiries received by us we are inclined to think that the "Pearl" is an almost equal offender, and in our next issue we propose to deal with some of the cases now before us. We may mention, however, that in order to be scrupulously fair to the company we have offered, at our own expense, to make a full investigation into its methods. The company, however, in its wisdom, has decided not to avail itself of our offer.

"Mutual" Life Insurance.

We presume that a "Mutual" Life Office is one in which the office on the one hand insures the life of its customers and they on the other hand insure the life of the office. Such, at any rate, is the view we have formed upon the facts of a case submitted to us by a reader who took out a policy with the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York twenty years ago. Before doing so he was handed a leaflet, which is now before us, containing various press notices of the company's system, one of which attributed its popularity to the fact that "this office has never in this country been associated with any of those extravagant promises and claptrap dodges with which American insurance companies are in this country too often associated." In another portion of the leaflet "examples" are given of "three of the most popular policies issued by the company." One of them relates to "Whole Life with Endowment Options—20 years' distribution," according to which a policy for £250 would, amongst other options, at the expiration of 20 years have a cash surrender value for "policy and bonuses" of at least £143. Upon the faith of this representation our reader effected such a policy, and the 20 years are now up. Upon applying to the company, however, for its surrender value he is told that instead of £143 all he is entitled to is £99 17s.—the contention of the company, we understand, being that they are not bound by the calculations of 20 years ago. Certainly the wording of the original circular is somewhat subtle, "Options on the basis of the company's experience on policies daily maturing." What explanation has the company to offer?

Diamond Proprietary.

We hear very sensational accounts of the prospects of this undertaking—over a thousand claims having been pegged out on the proclamation of the new field. We hope to have further information next week.

NEW ISSUES.

Pring and Thompson Process.

On another page will be found the prospectus of the company which has been formed to work this process, in regard to which so much interest has existed in the trade for the past twelve months, the whole of the proceeds of the present issue being for working capital. It is quite unnecessary to dwell upon the carefully prepared and conservative estimate of profits prepared by Mr. H. P. Thompson, the inventor of the process, and which we think will be very considerably exceeded in actual results. It is quite sufficient to say that at last a method has been devised under which the most famous oil paintings of the world may be reproduced in such a manner as to defy distinction from the originals; and when it is added that such reproductions may themselves be reproduced in the form of post-cards, etc., at a cost of a few pence each it will be seen that there should be a practically unlimited demand for the pictures. The experts who witnessed the recent exhibition at the Savoy Hotel were much impressed with what they saw. We predict that Messrs. Pring and Thompson have not only inaugurated a new era in the art history of the world, but have at the same time laid the foundations of a great fortune for themselves and for those who are lucky enough to become shareholders in their company.

Calgary Brewing and Malting.

Canada and America between them seem determined to absorb all our liquid capital. Free from the restrictions which apply, under our own law, to prospectuses of new issues, we are now always getting these gold bonds foisted upon us, on the strength of a report from the "President of the Company." Whatever may be the attractions of shares in such concerns—viewed from a speculative point of view—we are strongly of opinion that anything in the shape of mortgage bonds should be left to the natives; for it is pretty certain that in the event of trouble British bondholders would be left out in the cold.

City of North Vancouver.

A tin-pot issue of a tin-pot municipality—with a total population of 6,000 people, including children—for the purpose of "the construction of a reservoir and extensions to the water service, construction of a subway, wharf and warehouse, construction of school buildings, *and for general municipal improvements*." Such an issue is an insult to the British market.

Canadian Northern Railway.

More Canada! An issue of nearly a million and a half of further perpetual debenture stock, "secured by a *general* charge upon the undertaking, property and assets *(other than land and money subsidies)* of the company, *subject to* the £1,180,600 of bonds previously charged upon the Ontario division of the railway (287 miles) *and to charges created*, OR TO BE CREATED, not exceeding £2,000 per mile," etc, etc. We need only add that the issue is made "*in anticipation of a great increase of business.*" So hurry up with your cash.

New Zealand Government Loan.

An issue of four and a half million three and a half per cent. debentures, under the Naval Defence Act of 1909, and other Public Statutes. Perfectly safe, but the contingency fund at present lodged in this country to meet any sudden financial emergency, and which at present amounts to about £800,000, should, in our opinion, be increased to a round million—a course which would undoubtedly improve the credit of the colony.

Royal Automobile Club.

A perfectly sound issue, to which no possible objection can be taken, every material fact being fully disclosed, and the security for the debentures being ample.

The Molassine Company.

A fairly safe debenture issue, as things go, although the reason for it is not made as clear as we could wish. But it is a good business. And we should have thought that its phenomenal success would have rendered any further capital issue unnecessary.

Riordon Pulp and Paper Company.

Some day, we suppose, the investing public will have had enough of these Canadian concerns, with the entire management out of their control. We can do no more than repeat our warning to be extremely cautious. This issue does not appeal to us at all. It should be left severely alone.

A Test Match competition. See page 805.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Enquiry.

KENT COLLIERIES PREFS.—H. J. T.—These have shared in the general depression, but we look for an early recovery.

PETROLEUM OPTIONS.—G. G.—A promising low-priced share which, we think, will share in the coming boom.

DIAMOND PROPS.—We strongly advise you to hold these, in view of special information we have received.

LEVER BROS. £10 "A" PREFERENCE.—A perfectly sound and good investment.

MARTINS.—Z.—These shares are not dealt in on the Stock Exchange, and, in the event of your wishing to sell, it would be a matter of negotiation. We do not recommend investment in stocks which are not readily saleable.

GOLD COAST.—LEX.—There is every prospect of these shares improving.

MAIKOP AND EASTERN OIL CO.—A. F. L.—(1) These shares are stagnant, and the only thing to do is to await a revival in the Maikop field. (2) If you want to buy oil shares you should purchase only dividend-paying ones—unless, of course, you have special information.

FRANKLIN OIL.—JOHN JONES.—There is no market for these shares at present, but they may come to the front again.

TIN MINE.—F. C. B.—The Company is producing, and as soon as further capital has been placed should do well. Write the secretary again and register your letter.

LOGWOOD.—No market in these shares at present. Randfontein Central have not yet paid a dividend, but it is said they may do so by the end of the year. The May output showed an improved profit.

GALICIAN OIL LANDS AND ROYALTIES TRUST.—E. S. (New Cross).—See paragraphs in last two issues. FOREIGN BONDS.—Please give further particulars.

GALICIAN OIL.—SHOULDHAM.—A fair oil investment.

FARROW'S BANK.—AN OLD READER OF "JOHN BULL."—A safe and rising institution.

SAFE INVESTMENTS CO.—B. (Stoke Newington).—Central Argentine Railway Cons. Stock and Anglo-Argentine Tramways 5 per cent. Debs. are sound investments.

TEMPERANCE BUILDING SOCIETY.—A. B. C.—We do not advise investments in building societies unless it is to buy house property. The one you mention is fair of its kind.

BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO CO.—B. (Newport).—We do not recommend a purchase of these shares. You can cancel your application.

OBSCURE CONCERNS.—PLUNGER (Inverness).—These are very doubtful concerns, and there is no market for any of the shares mentioned. As regards the firm referred to, we do not advise you to join the movement, as you might thereby be landed into unknown liabilities for law costs, and there is nothing, moreover, to be gained.

INDUSTRIALS.—CUMBERLAND.—Only one of the shares mentioned—viz., the Union Cold Storage—is quoted at 1¼, and that is high enough for them. You can do better in other leading industrial issues, as you prefer this class of investment—say, Liptons at 1 1-32, or Lyons 6 per cent. Preferred at 24s., or Odhams Preference at 22s.

LANSTON MONOTYPE.—H. E. R.—(1) Fairly good. Dividend of 4 per cent. is being paid on the ordinary shares, and there is a reserve fund of £50,000. (2) The £1 shares stand at only 11s. 3d. (3) The Company seems to be making progress, but the competition of other concerns in the same line of business must be taken into consideration. That is why the shares stand at a low level.

WHITWORTH COLLIERIES.—C. F. (Sutton-in-Ashfield).—There is no quotation for these shares.

MAIKOP VALLEY.—X. Y. Z.—We understand that the work is proceeding on the property, and there are hopes that a producing well will be struck. You should certainly hold your shares.

INSURANCE.

RAILWAY PASSENGERS.—A. W. R.—Accident insurance is a purely annual affair, and in the circumstances stated in the Company's letter you send us, and which we have returned, we do not see that you have any cause for complaint.

PROPERTY INSURANCE.—C. C. (Dalston).—You will be quite safe in taking out a policy with this Company.

GRESHAM LIFE.—JUSTICE.—The policy having been assigned by you prior to the bankruptcy, and having subsequently come into the possession of your wife, who has regularly paid the premiums since, we can see no legal barrier to the Company discharging the claim. We think, however, they are entitled to call for a letter from the trustee. Better instruct a local solicitor.

LEGAL AND COMMERCIAL.—BLIGHTY.—A shareholder is, of course, liable for unpaid calls, and we fear you have no option but to meet the demand of 6s. per share made by the liquidator. Whether or not you would be able to obtain relief it is impossible for us to say without full information. We hope to refer to this matter again.

LONDON AND MANCHESTER ASSURANCE.—REX.—The policies are legal, and you have no claim for the return of the premiums paid. C. C. P. (Southsea).—The policies on the lives of your father and mother-in-law, the latter having been effected by your wife, are legal. The other policies you mention are, in our opinion, illegal, and the premiums recoverable. PRIMO (West Kensington).—The policy is in order, and a claim when it arises could not be disputed. We have returned your policy. ROYAL MARINE.—The answer to "Primo" meets your case, and the policy is returned. VERDI.—You need be under no apprehension as regards the validity of the policy. It is issued "on the life of another," and appears to be in order. Thanks for your contribution to our Human Document, which we have handed over to that department. Your policy has been returned under cover. ANXIOUS.—The policy on the life of your father, although issued without his consent, is legal.

BRITISH LEGAL AND UNITED PROVIDENT.—J. M. (Manchester).—You inform us that the life of your nephew having been assured, the Company have declined to meet the claim which has arisen owing to his death, in the absence of legal insurable interest. Under what circumstances, and by whom, was the policy effected?

VICTORIA LEGAL FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—D. D. (Cork).—We presume you mean the Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society. If, as you state, the society has recognised you as the holder of the policy, they will undoubtedly meet the claim on the death of your cousin. If you will forward the policy to us for inspection we will advise you further; meanwhile you had better continue paying the premiums.

PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION OF LONDON.—CHARLIE (Bolsover).—We are unable to say whether you would be able to dispose of the bonds by sale and transfer. Ascertain from the manager whether they are transferable, and what prospect there is of effecting a sale, and at what price.

SALVATION ARMY ASSURANCE.—W. K. (St. Albans).—It was unwise to give heed to the request of the agent to discontinue paying the premiums. The policy is now apparently out of benefit, and, unless the management would reinstate it, you may regard the premium payment of 3d. per week for eight years as forfeited. Write the society stating the facts, and ask if they will reinstate the policy.

ROYAL LONDON MUTUAL.—ANXIOUS.—Send us the correspondence. W.C. complains that policy holders now 90 years of age, having paid in premiums of £60 9s., and being desirous of surrendering the policy, is offered the small sum of £16. Although the life risk has been carried by the office, the small sum mentioned seems to us to be inadequate; at the same time, we fear a higher amount cannot be enforced, as in the absence of definite values the fixing of the amount is a matter left with the Company. We propose to give the question of surrender values allowed by the various offices our special attention shortly. MRS. T.—See answer to "Anxious."

ROYAL LONDON FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—ECHO.—The last payment under the policy having been made so long ago as October, 1900, we fear it would now be difficult for you to establish a claim for the assurance. If, however, you will inform us the precise date of your husband's death, we will look further into the matter. If, as you state, the society offered to return the actual premiums paid, it is quite possible that a valid claim could be established; but in the absence of further information it is difficult for us to express a definite opinion. We return the policy and receipt book. F. D. (Crewe).—Are the premiums paid up to date in respect of the two policies? Let us know, or send the receipt card or book. The policies would appear to be legally held by the wife.

REFUGE ASSURANCE.—ITALY (Blackpool), and many others.—We are inquiring into your complaints, but our hands have been very full of late. All in good time.

NATIONAL STANDARD.—ANXIETY.—Although not a large society, we do not think you have any occasion to be anxious as regards the fulfilment of any claim that may arise under the policy you hold. The quinquennial valuation of its assets and liabilities is about due.

INSURANCE OF FATHER AND MOTHER.—M. H. M.—The policies, in our opinion, are legal, but you had better write the office asking if they will recognise the claims, and communicate with us again.

LONDON AND MANCHESTER.—PERPLEXED (Epsom).—We should advise you to call at the office of the society, or write and explain your position.

CITY LIFE ASSURANCE.—E. E. PUGH (Hereford).—We regret the misfortune that has befallen you, but do not know of any opening likely to suit you. As regards your investment, write the Company, 6, Paul Street, Finsbury, London, E.C., and ask if they can assist you to dispose of the certificate. W. R. (Newcastle).—We have been in correspondence with the Company, and they have shown us the papers in the matter. You say, "I have been wheedled by specious promises out of every penny I possess." This is not true. According to the evidence before us you have already received an offer of £70 for the £142 10s. paid in. Why did you withhold this information when writing us? We have satisfied ourselves that the Company never had any intention of forfeiting your payments. Write the Secretary to continue his efforts to find you a purchaser at a higher figure than £70. There should not be much difficulty in this, as there is a good demand just now for money to purchase house property, and "British Homes" certificates five years old offer exceptional facilities in this direction. Let us know the outcome of your further negotiations.

GLASGOW ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—SHAREHOLDER.—(1) The prospectus making an appeal for fresh capital is, of course, an important document, and the directors are liable for every statement in it; but, in the absence of the prospectus itself, we are unable to express any opinion on the point you raised. (2) The liquidator would in all probability enlighten you as to the exact financial position of the Corporation at the date of the prospectus relating to the second issue of shares.

EDINBURGH LIFE ASSURANCE.—T. AND S. (Dungannon).—(1) It is entirely a question of agreement; the practice of paying commissions on premiums after an agency has been closed varies; it is allowed in some cases, and in others a condition is set up that all commissions cease and determine when the appointment is withdrawn. If there is no express condition depriving you of the renewal commission we think you could legally enforce your claim. The Company would be within its rights in notifying the assured that you were no longer acting as their representative.

ROYAL LIVER.—O. M. (Cardiff).—We regret we have not time to wade through 163 rules, very closely printed, contained in the policy. You inform us you are offered £35 for £80 paid in, representing, we presume, the surrender value of the policy, and you are disappointed because you were led to believe that, in addition, you were entitled to a cash bonus. But, as you joined the society in 1903, and the cash bonuses only became operative in the case of members joined before January 1st, 1899, we fear you could not claim this extra benefit, notwithstanding the statement made to you that you would be entitled to a bonus after 10 years' membership. We return the policy and correspondence.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—A. G. (Perth).—You have been misled. All the money paid on the original policy is lost. J. W. C. (Wyndham).—Your mother's policies are legal, and she could obtain free policies if she wished. JUMBO (Nunhead).—About £6 6s. A. E. E. (Llanbedr).—It is difficult to advise you. You could obtain a free policy, but the amount would be small. J. L. (Farnham).—If you did not sign the proposal form, your own policy is illegal. Your wife or yourself could sign for the child. J. H. (Twickenham).—It is for you to decide. You could obtain a free policy if you wished to discontinue the payments. W. D. (Hulme).—The value is stated on the policies. Apply to the agent as to free policies. Your friend should have nothing to do with the Company. J. H. (Manchester).—Yes, apply to the agent. W. E. (Birmingham).—You need have no fear if you can manage to keep up the payments. H. R. (Bethnal Green).—You are not entitled to any cash bonus. A. J. (Stourport).—You cannot recover the premiums paid, but could obtain a free policy on application to the agent. M. D. (Kentish Town).—Demand the free policy from the agent who collected the premiums. Also the 10s. you say is due to you. A READER OF "JOHN BULL" (Camden Town).—You could obtain free policies by applying to the agent. T. M. G. (Waterford).—You could obtain free policies, but the amount would be very small. R. G. (Hove), R. W. (Hurstmonceaux).—Your best plan is to consult a local solicitor. W. A. L. (Birmingham).—You can claim a surrender value of about £10. Write to the Head Office. The last quarterly receipt is sufficient. W. A. (Wandsworth).—If you discontinue payment you can obtain a free policy for a portion of the money. R. A. V. (Bodmin).—You can only compel your sister to give up the policy by an action in the Court, which would be expensive. She cannot get the money, as your husband is the legal claimant. G. W. H. (Catford).—The policy is in order, and the money would be paid if the amount stated is printed on the front of the policy. E. M. (Plumstead).—Consult a local solicitor. M. W. (Gospel Oak).—It is impossible for us to advise you under the circumstances. The solicitor you engaged would tell you the proper course to take.

It is requested that all letters sent us relating to the validity of policies held in the Prudential be marked on the envelope "Prudential." Owing to the number of inquiries which have been received, some little delay in dealing with them is unavoidable, but every endeavour is being made to expedite matters.

£100 for two correct scores. See page 805.

A Copy of the full Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

PRING & THOMPSON PROCESS,

LIMITED.

CAPITAL - - - £75,000,

DIVIDED INTO

35,000 Eight per Cent. Cumulative Preferential Participating Shares of £1 each

(Preferential as regards Capital as well as Dividend) and entitled to rank for further Dividends equally with the Ordinary Shares in all Surplus Profits after payment of 8 per cent. on the Ordinary Shares, and

40,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each.

THE PREFERENTIAL SHARES are now offered for Subscription at Par, payable:—On Application 2s. 6d., on Allotment 7s. 6d., One Month after Allotment 5s. 0d., and the balance by calls not exceeding 2s. 6d. per Share, of which one month's notice will be given.

DIRECTORS.

A. F. FOSH (Fosh and Cross, Printers), Scrutton Street, Finsbury, E.C.

WILLIAM JEFFREY (Director, Sell's Advertising Agency, Limited), 167, Fleet Street, E.C.

HORACE MIDDLETON, R.B.A., 10, Pembroke Studios, Pembroke Gardens, W.

H. P. THOMPSON (Pring and Thompson), 2, Norfolk Street, W.C., Managing Director.

BANKERS.

THE LONDON CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LIMITED, Newgate Street, E.C. Head Office and Branches.

AUDITORS.

FRANKLIN, WILD AND CO., Chartered Accountants, 22-28, Broad Street Avenue, London, E.C.

SECRETARY AND OFFICES.

J. HIGGS, 2, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This Company was registered towards the end of last year as a Private Company to acquire from Mr. H. P. Thompson the whole world rights for his Process of treating the surface of a coloured print whereby the technique of the Artist's original painting is reproduced in addition to the colours. The Process shows faithfully every brush mark in relief, and the smooth flat print is transformed into what to all appearance is an extremely clever copy of the original. Under the Process the picture becomes a painting. The individuality of the Painter is impressed upon the print as it was upon the original picture, for it introduces the brush and the human touch, in which lies all the difference between real art and art mechanical.

In the productions of the Menpes Series of Great Masters (for the supply of which the Company has secured a favourable Contract) it is admitted that colour printing has now reached such a standard of excellence that, colour for colour, tone for tone, the prints are replicas of the originals, all that is wanted is the artist's individual craftsmanship which is added by the Company's Process. An artist, viewing Mr. Thompson's reproduction of Rembrandt's "Girl at a Window" remarked, "I know it is not a copy, for the only hand that could make such a copy would be Rembrandt's own."

Since the formation of the Company upwards of one hundred different works of the Great Masters have been treated by the Process, and the Company are now in a position to deliver any reasonable quantity of each of these pictures.

An Exhibition of these was recently held at the Savoy Hotel, when representatives of the Press from all parts of the country were present, and the Process met with unanimous approval. Among those present were several of the leading Art Critics, all of whom testified to the artistic value of the invention. Numerous pictures have also for some time been on view in the Lounge and Trading Room of the premises of the *Times* Book Club.

INTENDING INVESTORS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO VISIT THE COMPANY'S GALLERIES, 2, NORFOLK STREET, STRAND, AND JUDGE FOR THEMSELVES.

Arrangements have been made with Messrs. A. and C. Black, of Edinburgh and London, the publishers of the well-known Menpes Series of Great Masters, and with another leading house, by which these firms agree to supply their productions to the Company on special terms for a period of five years, and during the continuance of the agreement not to supply any person or firm using a process or processes to perform work similar in character to that of this Company.

The Directors have reason to believe that during the last five years a sum aggregating £50,000 has been spent on the reproductions of some 150 famous paintings, which reproductions would take this Company a similar capital outlay and five or six years to accumulate. The great advantage of the above arrangements is therefore obvious.

An important firm, with established connection in all the leading towns of South America, has ordered a full line of the Company's works framed, for shipment to South America, and an agreement is under consideration whereby they would take over the sole agency for South America upon a guaranteed sale of not less than 5,000 pictures the first year.

It has been found necessary, in order to do full justice to the Company's reproductions of the Great Masters (either ancient or modern), that they should be sold framed, and the greatest care has been taken to give each subject its appropriate setting, and the Directors have come to the conclusion that it would be a considerable advantage if this Company owned its own frame-making factory. With this end in view, they have obtained an option to purchase the old-established high-class business of Messrs. Gezell and Lea on favourable terms.

The value of this invention having now been thoroughly proved, and all the necessary arrangements made to at once place the business on a commercial basis, the Directors feel justified in offering the Preference Shares to the Public as an investment likely to prove exceptionally remunerative.

The Company do not propose to confine themselves to the reproduction of famous pictures, but will commission Artists of repute to paint the portraits of celebrities. A new picture of the King is now completed, and an inquiry is in hand for 10,000 copies for India. A painting of General Booth, which is generally admitted to be a particularly good portrait, is also in hand, and a very large sale for both these pictures is confidently anticipated.

Apart from the sources of profit above-mentioned, a large and profitable field for the Company's operations should be the production of high-class showcards and calendars. In this connection the Directors have received the following letter from Mr. T. H. R. Pring, late Advertisement Manager to Selfridge's, and a Partner in the firm of Pring and Thompson:—

"The value of this Process in pictorial advertising is immense. A single instance is sufficient illustration of this point. All the world knows 'Bubbles,' the famous poster issued by A. F. Pears and Co. If the flat prints, issued in tens of thousands by this firm as showcards, were to be treated by this Process, and mounted on canvas, it will be admitted that their effectiveness would be enormously enhanced. Each print would become a replica of the original painting, showing in fine relief every delicate line and brush mark, as if laid on by Millais himself. It is safe to say that such a print would never be discarded or wilfully destroyed, and its value as a medium of advertising would be incalculably increased at an infinitesimal cost for the Process treatment.

"To every firm using reproductions of pictures of high merit for purposes of publicity the Pring and Thompson Process will appeal most strongly, and I can foresee enormous possibilities for the Company in this direction."

Mr. H. P. Thompson (Managing Director) estimates the profits for the first year's working at the sum of £17,750; a copy of this estimate accompanies the full Prospectus.

Estimated profits for the first year		£17,750
Of which Preference Dividend will absorb	£2,800	
Dividend of 8 per cent. on the Ordinary Shares	3,200	
Directors' Fees, Management and Offices	1,200	
		7,200
Leaving ..		£10,550

For reserve, extra remuneration to the Directors, and further Dividend on each class of Shares of at least 10 per cent.

Previous to the filing of the Provisional Specification for the Patent for the United Kingdom, an exhaustive search was made by Messrs. Wheatley and Mackenzie, the well-known Patent Agents, of 40, Chancery Lane, and the claims in the final Specification were settled by Mr. A. J. Walters, K.C., the eminent authority on Patent Law.

Applications will be made in due course for Letters Patent in France, the United States of America, Germany, Austria, and other important countries. The sale of these should result in large bonuses to the Shareholders in this Company.

Applications for the Preference Shares must be made on the accompanying form and sent to the Company's Bankers, with the amount payable on application. If the number of Shares allotted is less than that applied for, the surplus will be credited in reduction of the amount payable on allotment, and any balance will be returned. Failure to pay an instalment when due will render previous payments liable to forfeiture.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application may be obtained from the Bankers, Brokers, and at the Offices of the Company.

Application will be made to the Committee of the London Stock Exchange in due course for a special settlement of the Shares now offered for subscription.

This form should be filled up and sent, with the deposit of 2s. 6d. per share payable on application, to the London City and Midland Bank, Limited, Newgate Street, E.C.; their Head Office, Threadneedle Street, E.C.; or branches.

PRING AND THOMPSON PROCESS (LIMITED),

CAPITAL, ... £75,000.

Divided into 35,000 EIGHT PER CENT. CUMULATIVE PARTICIPATING PREFERENCE SHARES OF £1 EACH, and 40,000 ORDINARY SHARES of £1 EACH.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To the Directors of
PRING AND THOMPSON PROCESS, LIMITED,
2, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your Bankers the sum of £..... being a deposit of 2s. 6d. per Share on application for..... 8 per cent. Cumulative Participating Preferential Shares in the above-named Company, I hereby request you to allot me that number of Shares upon the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company; and I hereby agree to accept such shares or any smaller number you may allot to me, and I agree to pay 7s. 6d. per Share on Allotment, and the further instalment as provided by the Prospectus of the Company, and I request you to place my name upon the Register of Members in respect of the Shares which may be allotted to me.

Ordinary Signature.....

Name (in Full) .....
(State whether Rev., Mr., Mrs., or Miss).

Address .....

Description .....

Date.....1912.

Please write distinctly.

All cheques to be made payable to bearer and crossed "The London City and Midland Bank, Limited."

ANTICIPATED EPITAPHS.

[In this column we give from week to week an anticipatory —always good-humoured—Epitaph of some celebrity of the day. We need scarcely say we hope it will be many years before his relatives will have to consider seriously our suggestion.]

Thys
Gunne-metal
Slabbe
Was here affyxed
Toe perpetuate ye memorie
Of

Sir Hiram Stevens Maxim, Kt.,

Whoo conferred upon humanitie
(More efpeçiallie upon ye savage and barbarous peoples)
One of ye chief blefsynges of civilyzation,
Toe Witte,
Ye machyne gunne.
Born
Anno Domini 1840
In ye State of Maine, U.S.A.
Of Puritan Anceftrie,
Hee confyrmed ye truth of Darwin's theory of
Ye variaçion of Type,
Developynge intoe a "sport" or "throw-back";
For,
Scornynge ye peaceful path trodd by hys puritanical forebears,
Hee devoted hys ingenious brayne
Toe ye studie of inftrumentes of deathe and deftruckçion,
Toe witte,
Gunnes, cannons, and ye lyke deviliſh weapons
Wherewyth warlyke menne delyght to deface
Ye image of theyre Maker.
Aided,
One needs muft thynk,
By ye Infernal Powers,
Hee succeeded in inventynge an
Automatick, quick-fyrynge machyne gunne
Whyche hee called ye Maxim
And whych was able toe difcharge manie hundreds
Of bullettes, miſsiles, or other meſsengers of deathe
Per minute,
And bye whyche manie thousands of heathens,
Savages, and other barbarous people
Throughout ye worlde
Have subſequentlie been mown downe.
However,
Ye paſsynge yeares brought remorſe in theyre trayne
And hee endeavoured toe undoe
Ye deadlie worke hee hadde accomplyſhed
Bye inventynge
Somethynge toe soothe ye sufferynges of ye asthmatickall
Ye whyche hee called "Ye Pype of Peace."
Atte ye same tyme
Ye problem of aerial flyghte occupyed hys attençion
Butte hee was luckie enough toe survive
Hys experimentes.
However,
As soe often happeneth wyth menne of genius,
Hee endangered hys scientifick reputaçion
Atte ye lafte
Bye claimynge toe have diſcovered a myſterious
SIXTH SENSE
In humanitie,
Enablynge them toe deteckt ye preſence of thynges
Unſeen, unfelte, and unheard,
Ye whyche diſcoverie greatlie intereſted
Ye burglynge fraternitie,
Whoſe anxietie toe receive earlie warnynge of
Ye approach of a policemanne
Is notorious.
Thus,
Full of yeares,
And in full poſsession of hys senſes
(Includynge ye Sixth)
Regretted and reſpeckted by alle whoo knew hym,
And manie more whoo didde notte,
Hee dyed.

THE COLLIER CASE.

WE DO NOT APOLOGISE.

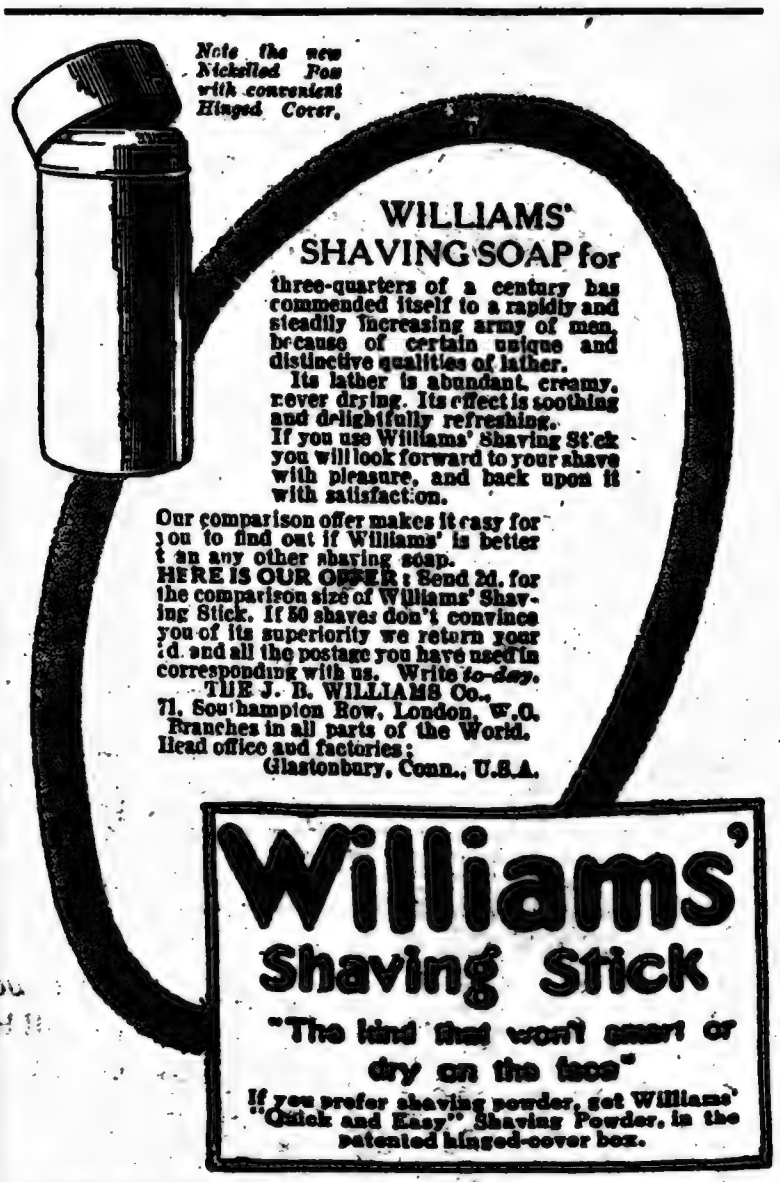
With reference to our comments upon the peculiar transactions by members of Mr. Councillor Collier's family in property required for the extension of the local waterworks at Northampton, which resulted in some severe strictures in the Borough Council, culminating in that gentleman leaving the body and commencing proceedings for libel against ourselves, another local Councillor, and a Northampton journal, the actions came on for trial on June 6th, with the result that, in the absence of ourselves and our solicitors, the local agents arranged with our Counsel to consent to a withdrawal of our case on the terms of each party paying its own costs. Had we been personally consulted, we should strongly have objected to this settlement, and we take this opportunity of denying the statement which has appeared in several local papers that "an apology was tendered." If by any misunderstanding it was, we hereby beg to withdraw it. The action against the other Borough Councillor was settled on similar terms, whilst in that against the local journal the plaintiff consented to a verdict for the defendant with costs.

A FRUITARIAN PHILOSOPHER.

The following advertisement is ingenious enough to be allowed to speak for itself:—

> Gentleman (Bachelor), 39, fruitarian, abstainer, non-smoker, fond of home, serious and sympathetic, seeks Position as Companion to a Lady; would advise, or assist in business.

We have no doubt that a person who restricts his diet to fruit would be quite harmless.


Note the new Nickelled Pan with convenient Hinged Cover.
WILLIAMS' SHAVING SOAP for
three-quarters of a century has commended itself to a rapidly and steadily increasing army of men, because of certain unique and distinctive qualities of lather.
Its lather is abundant, creamy, never drying. Its effect is soothing and delightfully refreshing.
If you use Williams' Shaving Stick you will look forward to your shave with pleasure, and back upon it with satisfaction.
Our comparison offer makes it easy for you to find out if Williams' is better than any other shaving soap.
HERE IS OUR OFFER: Send 2d. for the comparison size of Williams' Shaving Stick. If 50 shaves don't convince you of its superiority we return your 2d. and all the postage you have used in corresponding with us. Write to-day.
THE J. B. WILLIAMS Co.,
71, Southampton Row, London, W.C.
Branches in all parts of the World.
Head office and factories:
Glastonbury, Conn., U.S.A.
Williams'
Shaving Stick
"The kind that won't smart or dry on the face"
If you prefer shaving powder, get Williams' "Quick and Easy" Shaving Powder, in the patented hinged-cover box.

ADD TO YOUR INCOME

A City Firm of high financial standing desires to get into touch with men with good connection to act for them as agents. Preference will be given to insurance and estate agents. Write, with references, to "A," at Horncastle's, Cheapside, London.

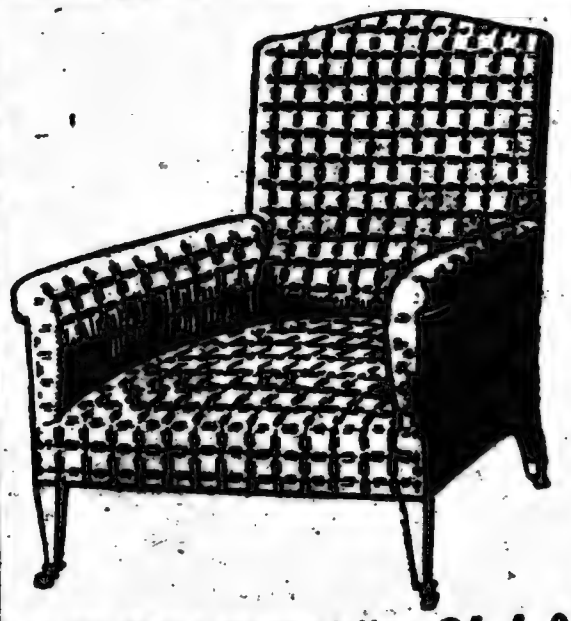
Unique Furniture Sale.

Having acquired several manufacturers' stocks of Bedroom, Dining and Drawing Room furniture we are offering these at 50 per cent. less than the original prices and every article must be cleared within the next seven days.

We want our country friends to visit us because we feel certain that you will purchase, and to enable you to do this we will pay your fare to town on all orders of £30 and upwards.
Do not fail to take this opportunity. It will mean money in your pockets.

SECOND-HAND DEPARTMENT. We have been purchasing second-hand furniture from all the noted and important sales during the past six months and are now offering these also at sale prices.

Any article we sell may be obtained on our well-known Gradual Payment System, the payments extending over one, two or three years at the option of the purchaser. No deposit is required, neither do we add interest or make any extra charges whatsoever.



107 Easy chairs as illustrated, in blue, green or red Corduroy. Usual price, £2 2s. 0d. Sale price **£1-1-0**

The following list of articles which we are unable to illustrate, must be cleared this week certain :—

200 Bedroom Suites, painted in all art shades at 50/- Usual price £4 14s. 6d.
23 Walnut Sideboards at £4 14s. 6d. Usual price, £7 17s. 6d.
31 Louis-style Cabinets at 50/-. Usual price, £4 10s. 0d.
106 Large-size Oak Bedroom Suites at 6 guineas. Usual price, 9 guineas.
13 Saddlebag Dining Room Suites at £5 15s. 0d. Usual price 8½ guineas.
27 Oak Dining Room Suites at 4½ guineas. Usual price, 7½ guineas.
300 Overmantels, assorted designs, at 30/-. Usual price, 3 guineas.
163 Wicker upholstered Chairs, at 7/6. Usual price, 14/6.
61 Bedsteads and Bedding complete, at 26/6. Usual price, 50/-.
400 Art Carpet Squares, at 15/-. Usual price, 32/6.
162 Large-size Fumed Oak Bureaux, at 25/-. Usual price, 50/-.
16 Oak Bureau Bookcases, at £3 18s. 6d. Usual price, 6 guineas.
14 Inlaid Mahogany Music Cabinets, at 35/-. Usual price, 3 guineas.
6 Pianos by well-known makers, at 14 guineas. Usual price, £22 10s. 0d.

Also a large quantity of Cutlery, Linen, Plate, etc.

TERMS.

Worth. £	Per Month. £ s. d.
10	6 0
20	11 0
50	1 8 0
100	2 5 0
200	4 10 0
500	11 5 0
1,000	22 10 0
2,000	45 0 0

Or by other proportionate payments to suit purchaser's convenience.

A special discount of 10 per cent. will be allowed for prompt cash.

82 Large size fumed Oak Bedroom Suites, with side Mirrors to the dressing chest; 2 rush chairs are included Usual price £10 10s 0d. Sale price **£7-17-6**

Country orders are packed and delivered free.

Our fully illustrated catalogue will be forwarded post free on application.

MIDLAND
FURNISHING · Co · LTD
15 TO 23 · SOUTHAMPTON · ROW · HOLBORN · LONDON · W.C.

IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

[Being Conversations in a West-End Barber's Shop, Overheard by our Reporter.]

LORD HALDANE.

"Mornin', sir. 'Ope I 'aven't kep' you waitin'. This chair, if you don't mind . . . that one wot you're in is a bit draughty, and I never lets genlemen wot ain't got much 'air on their 'eads sit in it if I can 'elp it.

"Speakin' of 'air reminds me of wool; and speakin' of wool reminds me of that there cushin arrangement in the 'Ouse of Lords wot they calls the Woolsack, wot the Lord Charnceller sits on; w'ich leads me to my point, so ter speak. I dessay you've seen in the papers that Lord 'Aldane's got a rise, sir? . . . These Cabinik Ministers *do* do theirselves a bit o' good, sir, don't they? . . . My word; not arf, they don't. . . . Ten thousand a year, 'e'll git, sir; and I think meself lucky if I make ten bob a week in tips! . . . Razer soot you, sir? . . . 'E's got the right sorter mug for it, eny'ow. W'en 'e's got 'is wig on to 'ide 'is thin 'air 'e'll look a proper Lord 'Igh Charnceller, I reckon. . . . Oh, yessir; e's got the legal face right enuff—a trifle too much on the fat side, p'raps; but I dessay that's the result of the years 'e spent in Germany w'en 'e wos a young man; for the quantity of beer them German students drink is somethink shockin', I'm told. . . . You'll excuse me, sir, but you

ain't unlike 'im in the face . . . very much better lookin'. o' course; but there's a likeness. . . . Shave up, sir? . . ; But as War Minister 'e never did look the part, did 'e, sir? 'E looked no more like the 'ead of the British *H*army then my old woman does, and she weighs sixteen stun if she's a *h*ounce! . . . And, so fur as I kin make out, 'avin' 'ad a tork with a friend o' mine, a private in the Sussex ridgmint, 'e wosn't no better at the job then wot 'e looked. . . . My pal tells me the Service don't think nothink of 'im. . . . *And* a little powder? Thank you, sir. . . . Yore 'air's gittin' very thin on the top, sir. . . . I can 'ighly recommend our special preparation for keepin' the 'air on. . . . It ain't my bisnis to over-persuade customers, sir; but I can solemnly assure you that a little of this rubbed in night an' mornin' will eradicate scurf, keep the scalp in a 'ealthy —— Very good, sir . . . as you please, sir . . . o'ny I don't like to see a genleman's 'air goin' thin w'en 'e could prevent it. . . . I see Colonel Seely is agoin' to take on 'Aldane's job, sir. . . . People think becos 'e's called 'Colonel' 'e's a proper soljer. But 'e aint, not reely. 'E wos in the 'Ampshire Carabineers, and served in South Africa, true enuff, and 'e knows somethink erbout the *H*army, I dessay. But 'e's a lawyer, reely—like wot old 'Aldane is. . . . Wait a minit, sir, I ain't brushed you down yet, and you orl over —— G-r-r-r-r!—another bloomin' no-tipper. . . . Shouldn't be surprised if 'e wos 'Aldane 'imself, now I come to think."

NOTICE TO BARBERS AND HAIRDRESSERS.

We have received a large number of applications for the originals of the sketches comprised in this series, and are dealing with them in rotation. We would point out that the series has been running for only a few weeks, and that consequently it will take a long time to comply with all the requests we receive. In these circumstances, we shall, when possible, be happy to forward to applicants who would otherwise be disappointed original drawings of our cartoons.

SHALL OUR RAILWAYS BE NATIONALIZED?

All who would be well informed on this important subject should read

THE

NATIONALIZATION OF RAILWAYS

By EMIL DAVIES,

which is a storehouse of facts regarding British, Foreign, and Colonial Railways, and sets forth the pros and cons of State ownership, besides explaining fully the financial and social aspects of the question.
Price 1/- net. (post free 1/2)

A. & C. BLACK, SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

GAINS 2 STONE 10 IN 40 DAYS.

Remarkable Results of the New Tissue Builder, Sargol, in Many Cases of Run-Down Men and Women.

Prove it Yourself by Sending Coupon Below for a 2/6 Packet Free.

"My word! I never saw anything like the effects of that new treatment, Sargol, for the building up of weight and lost nerve force. It acted more like a miracle than a medicine," said a well-known gentleman yesterday in speaking of the revolution that had taken place in his condition. "I began to think that there was nothing on earth that could make me fat. I tried tonics, digestives, heavy eating diet, milk, stout, and almost everything else you could think of, but without result.

THE START END OF SECOND MONTH

"I had been thin for years, and began to think it was natural for me to be that way. Finally I read about the remarkable results brought about by the use of Sargol, so I decided to try it myself. Well, when I look at myself in the mirror now I think it is somebody else. I have put on just 2 stone 10 lbs. during the last month, and never felt stronger or more 'nervy' in my life."

Sargol is a powerful inducer of nutrition, increases cell growth, makes perfect assimilation of food, increases the number of blood corpuscles, and as a necessary result builds up muscles and solid, healthy flesh, and rounds out the figure.

For women who can never appear stylish in anything they wear because of their thinness, this remarkable treatment may prove a revelation. It is a beauty-maker as well as a form builder and nerve strengthener. Men increase their nerve power as well as adding many pounds of good healthy flesh.

It will cost you nothing to prove the remarkable effects of this treatment. It is absolutely non-injurious to the most delicate system. The Sargol Company will send to anyone who sends name and address a free 2s. 6d. package of Sargol, with instructions, to prove that it does the work. They will also send you their book on "Why You are Thin" free of charge, giving facts which will probably astonish you. Send coupon below to-day, with your name and address.

FREE SARGOL COUPON.

This Coupon entitles any thin person to one 2s. 6d. package of Sargol, the concentrated Flesh Food (provided you have never tried it and that 3d. is enclosed to cover postage, packing, and so forth). Read our advertisement printed above, then put 3d. in stamps in the letter to-day with this Coupon, and the full 2s. 6d. package will be sent you by return of post.

Address: THE SARGOL CO. (Dept. 749), 124 HOLBORN, LONDON, E.C.

CALVERT'S

CARBOLISED

Shaving Soap

proves how much the lather can contribute to the comfort of a shave, as the razor goes cleanly and smoothly over the face, meeting no excessive resistance, even from a strong growth of beard, and, therefore, neither scraping nor tearing the skin.

Tenpence a stick from your Chemist. Sample post free for threepence from F. C. Calvert & Co. (Dept. 2), Manchester.

TO CRICKET ENTHUSIASTS.

OUR UNIQUE TEST MATCH OFFER.

An Easy £100!

During the winter months we made it a practice to offer each week large prizes to those of our readers who were interested in the great winter pastime—Football.

Tempus fugit, and now instead of Football we are in the midst of the Cricket season. Recognised as the National game at all times, enthusiasm has been still further increased this year by the visit of the Colonial teams to take part in the Triangular Test. In view of the wonderful interest that is being displayed in these Test matches, it has occurred to us that we might give our Cricket readers similar opportunities as those we afforded footballers—viz., putting forward a test of skill which is likely to prove profitable. Therefore for every Test Match to be held hereafter we are offering the nice prize of

£100

AND TO WIN THIS SUM COSTS YOU NOTHING!

On Monday, June 24th, at Lord's, the match between

ENGLAND *v.* AUSTRALIA

will be commenced, and thousands upon thousands of our readers who are interested in the National game will keenly follow the progress of the play.

JOHN BULL offers a prize of

£100

to the reader who can accurately set down on the Coupon attached the name of THE PLAYER WHO SCORES THE HIGHEST INNINGS FOR EACH SIDE.

Such a novel competition has never before been promoted, and if you are a cricketer it must appeal to you.

Nothing further than this is necessary. Just fill in, on this Coupon, which player you think will score the most runs for Australia and similarly for England. If your attempt is absolutely correct you win the £100, but in case of a tie it will be divided. To ensure *someone's* getting a prize we offer CONSOLATION AWARDS as follows. In case the £100 is not won outright we shall give a prize of

£25

to the reader who names the actual score of *one* of the players making the most runs. Should no one be successful in this we will, in any event, award a prize of £10 for what in our decision is the nearest attempt.

NOTE THESE RULES.—Cut this Coupon out neatly and address it to the Competition Editor, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, W.C., marking your envelope in the left-hand top corner "Test Match," and post it so that it reaches us not later than first post on Monday, June 24th, while it is imperative that you put your name or a *nom-de-plume* on the back of envelopes containing coupons. All competitors, who have given correct results, and those who think they have a reasonable chance of gaining the consolation prize, *must* send in their claims, together with a copy of their coupons, within seven days of the close of the match, and mark the left-hand top corner of the envelope "Cricket Claim."

TEST MATCH COUPON. No. 1.

I say that the highest score for each side in the Test Match will be as follows:—

Batsman. *Runs.*

_____ England _____

_____ Australia _____

Competitor's Name _____

Address _____

_____

SPARKS OF ENERGY.

IF you feel tired and stupid, with no ambition to get out and hustle; if you have spells of despondency and a desire to give up the fight, you need new energy.

We can take a man like that and pump new energy into his body while he rests, and in a few weeks' time transform him into a giant of strength and courage. It is proved that energy and electricity are one and the same thing. If you lack this energy you can get it only by filling your nerves with electricity. The "Ajax" Dry-Cell Body Battery does that. You put it on for an hour while resting, and feel its invigorating stream of electric life in your nerves, its vitalising spark in your blood. You are a different man, full of new life, new vim, and courage enough to tackle anything.

The "Ajax" is a dry-cell body battery, an actual generator of its own current (not a storage battery), which infuses a steady force of electricity into the body as long as it is kept on. It does not shock—shocking currents should never be applied to the human body. As it makes its own power it is always ready for use. It builds up vitality and strength, and cures disease by removing the cause.

GIVEN FREE.

Let us send you our beautiful 80-page book, which tells all about our treatment and methods. It is free. Write for it at once—to-day.

THE BRITISH ELECTRIC INSTITUTE,
(Dept. 41) 25, HOLBORN VIADUCT, LONDON, E.C.

THE SECRET MESSAGE.

SEE THE JULY

MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF FICTION,

Which contains

THE SECRET MESSAGE,

A Double-Length Original Novel, and Seven other Original Complete Stories.

PRICE **3d.** POST-FREE 4½d.

☞ ***NOTE WELL!*** THIS IS the Genuine Fiction Readers' Magazine. Not an Advertisers' Pamphlet.

GREAT WHITE CITY'S Greatest Success.

A wonderful representation of the Arts, Life and Scenes of France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Latin-America and the British Empire in the

LATIN-BRITISH EXHIBITION, SHEPHERD'S BUSH, W.

A living Exhibition of the Life of the World's most Romantic Countries.

THE NEW MERRYLAND
with its Thrilling Street of Adventure and Hundreds of Novel Attractions.

GREAT WHITE CITY'S RECORD SUCCESS.
Open 11 to 11. Admission, 1s.; Children, 6d.

JOHN BULL'S SUMMER ANNUAL

PRICE 1s. Net.

DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. Clement Scott.

The Women of France.

This fine romantic drama is certainly one of the very best that Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck have ever attempted at the Lyceum Theatre. Bravely and with a force born of experience does Miss Nora Kerin attack the arduous character of Valerie de Brissac, a melodramatic heroine of nerve, of fire, and passion portrayed with curious skill. The thrilling story itself bristles with excitement and vigour. Miss Mary Glynne cuts another pretty figure as the Dauphin Louis XVII. in this noteworthy production, and Mr. Walter and Mr. Frederick Melville can shake hands with one another—never have managers received more enthusiastic encouragement. Miss Eva Dare always appears on the stage just at the right moment, and gets every ounce of good she can out of the part of Corporal Pache's wife. The complications created by Messrs. Shirley and Landeck are not too intricate, but precisely as they should be, and the audience rise to the situations and applaud mighty hard. It is no strained compliment to say "The Women of France" is the most exhilarating drama the present management has ever given to its patrons. I must please say a word for the excellent music supplied by Mr. H. Sullivan-Brooke, a relative, I believe, of the late Sir Arthur Sullivan. Heart-strings are wrung, and souls harrowed by "The Women of France," but all ends happily at last, and the people are sent home with laughter on their lips, not tears in their eyes.

"Gipsy Love."

Amidst signs of the most lively interest, Daly's Theatre has reopened with what promises to be one of this theatre's brightest and prettiest musical comedies. There is only one trouble lurking in the distance which may possibly culminate into something more serious if not attended to, and that is—Miss Gertie Millar has a comparatively speaking subsidiary part to play in Franz Lehar's effective work. I do not want for an instant to express anything but the greatest admiration for the newcomer, Miss Sari Petrass, whose appearance and singing are equally charming, but there is a *je ne sais quoi* about Miss Gertie Millar that belongs to no other young lady at either Daly's, the Gaiety, or the Adelphi—Mr. George Edwardes' trio of London playhouses. She possesses a fascinating personality and a style all her own. I hope I may be forgiven then, for saying that in "Gipsy Love" there is too little of Miss Millar—and that to me she is somewhat of a pale figure in a memorable scene. Outside this, there is nothing to grumble about. Unsparing efforts have been made in every direction to attain a spirited and stirring show. Mr. Basil Hood—the adaptor of the libretto from German into English—has made the very best of an extremely good chance, and Adrian Ross is not behindhand with his smart up-to-date lyrics. Wild bursts of loud-volumed enthusiasm greeted each artist as he or she appeared at the Daly *première*, and proved how firm a grip upon public favour this merry company holds. Cheers echoed from side to side of the auditorium for all concerned in the new Lehar production, which for singular grace and beautiful colouring has never been excelled by Mr. Edwardes.

THINGS WE HEAR, BUT MUST NOT REPEAT.

The character of the amusements which attracted a noble lord of recent creation to Paris for Whitsuntide.

The terms required by a very old lady for a second instalment of her reminiscences.

The amount of money paid in blackmail by a certain statesman during the last ten years, and the likelihood of his attempting to punish a middle-aged journalist who set about him rather too clumsily.

The kind of costume which was discouraged in the case of a slim young man who wanted to make a sensation at the Hundred Years Ball.

The date of Mr. Hammerstein's departure for his native land.

Who was the pretty girl who laughed so loudly at the Victoria Palace Music Hall during all the most absurdly serious and sentimenfal turns the other night.

A London Centenarian

Vitality and Energy—

One hundred and eight years of life is so much *something out of the ordinary*, that only some great *abiding force*, some unusual vitality, could have enabled Mrs. Clark to attain so great an age. With all those 108 years of life behind her, it is evident that the ordinary weakness of Nature would triumph if her vitality was not *renewed and supplemented from day to day* by the nervous and organic force she derives from Phosferine. To this precaution Mrs. Clark owes her energy, and ability to eat and sleep well, it having been proved for many years that Phosferine prolongs her activities and *considerably increases her vitality*, and, in sober truth, builds up that reserve of *abiding force* which maintains the life impulse. The certainty that human force *can* be replenished is confirmed by the fact that even at 108 years Phosferine prevented Mrs. Clark's bodily functions *getting weak or out of order*, which is proof that Phosferine must be of even greater benefit to invalids and others whose vitality is far less feeble.

Created and Maintained.

Mr. Harry Clark, who is 65 years of age, states:—"My mother has been taking Phosferine now for many years, and it has proved to be of splendid service to her as an all-round tonic. Phosferine prolongs her activities and *considerably increases her vitality*, and has a marked strengthening effect. In all her long life and experience (and she is in her 108th year) there has never been any remedy so admirably adapted to strengthen and restore her constitution as Phosferine, and it gives me much pleasure to inform you of the very high esteem in which we hold your excellent preparation. Phosferine provides the energy to keep up the action of the nervous system and this *prevents her bodily functions getting weak or out of order*. She owes so much to Phosferine that I am sure it will prove very valuable to any invalids or aged people, who will find it as much of a necessity as my mother and myself."—Feb. 12, 1912.—164, High Road, Wood Green.

PHOSFERINE

GREATEST OF ALL TONICS.

A PROVEN REMEDY FOR

NEURALGIA	MATERNITY WEAKNESS	HYSTERIA
RHEUMATISM	NERVOUS HEADACHES	SLEEPLESSNESS
BRAIN-FAG	PREMATURE DECAY	EXHAUSTION
LASSITUDE	INFLUENZA	MALARIA
INDIGESTION	ANAEMIA NEURITIS	NERVOUSNESS

And all disorders consequent upon a reduced state of the nervous system.

The Royal Tonic.

Phosferine has been supplied by Royal Commands to

The Royal Family
H.I.M. The Empress of Russia
H.I.M. The Dowager Empress of Russia
H.M. the King of Greece
H.M. the King of Spain
The Imperial Family of China

And the Principal Royalty and Aristocracy throughout the World.

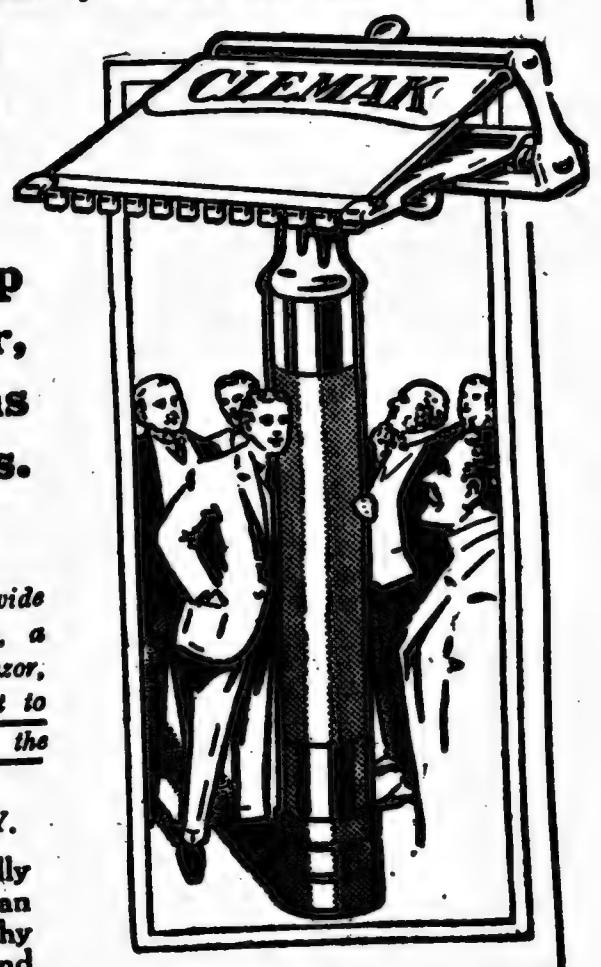
The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size.

CLEMAK Safety Razor 5/-

The Clemak Safety Razor—at 5s.—is Made as Well and Shaves as Well as any Guinea Safety Razor.

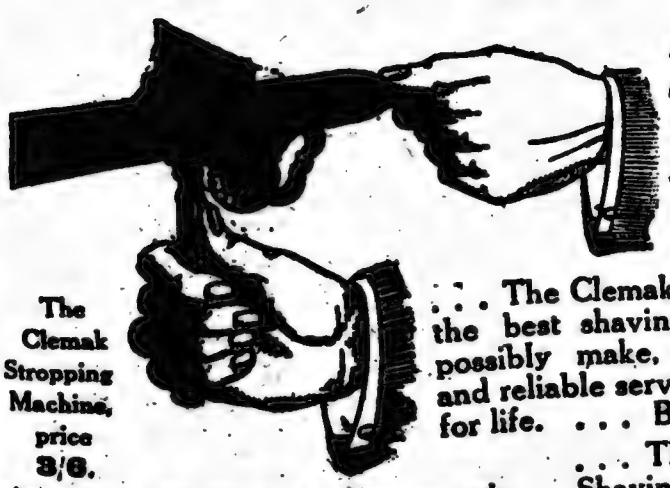
. . . Note how carefully it is made—the perfection of every detail—its beautiful finish. Look at the blade, feel its keen cutting edge. No other blade could shave your beard more easily than that.

. . . Now put the **CLEMAK** side by side with any other Safety Razor offered at a Guinea. You will then see for yourself that it is in every way the equal of the other Razor—and costs you 16/- less to buy. Then why pay a guinea?



The only way to keep a razor sharp is to strop it. To buy a safety razor, and throw dull blades away, means a continuous expense for new blades.

The CLEMAK avoids all this.



"A man hath to provide himself with two things, a good wife, and a good razor, and it is more difficult to find the latter than the former."

SOUTHEY.

The Clemak Stropping Machine, price **3/6**, (including a fine horse-hide strop), compels you to strop at the **correct** angle and pressure. Ensures a **keen** blade for **every** shave.

. . . The Clemak Razor is undoubtedly the best shaving investment you can possibly make, and by its trustworthy and reliable service will prove a friend for life. . . . Buy one to-day.

. . . The Clemak Safety Razor and the Clemak Stropper is a perfect Shaving Combination. They cost together 8s. 6d., and last a lifetime. Why pay a guinea?

COMBINATION CASE, 12 Blades, Stropping Machine, and Strop, 10/6

OF ALL STORES, CUTLERS, &c., Or post free from the CLEMAK RAZOR CO., Bilston St., London.

CLEMAK Safety Razor 5/-

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPES ARE ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

J. M. (Hastings) and others, call attention to an obvious misprint in the date in the Bull's Eye coupons in our issue of June 1st. Oh, for a business printer's reader!

C. A. L. (Holborn).—Glad to hear that you have had a satisfactory settlement with McLauchlan.

"THE WHIP."—How very unkind to imagine that Jim Crow could have such rude ideas. We knew it was the joiner who made a bolt for the door when his wife found him drinking whisky late at night, but you have not sent an interpretation of the little dog whose mistress called him "Swiss Chocolate."

G. H. S. (Barnstaple) is the author of the poem which we quoted about the *Titanic* and claims a prize from us for interpreting an obscure passage. He is good enough to inform us "Satanic" means "having the qualities of Satan, very wicked." We fear, however, that he has not succeeded in persuading us that his lines possess much meaning. He quarrels with us for suggesting a padded cell, but we assure him that most poets find such places quite comfortable.

"IBEX" (Oldham) tells us that, following our exposures, the Sootheen people have dropped "keying" their fly trap advertisements. He suggests that the "mantle" business carried on by Seagrave and Slade is really only a "cloak." He also points out that even up to the present there is no claim to a cure by Sootheen.

A. E. D. sends his experiences of Bank Holiday: "I saw a goat drawing a carriage with two grown children, two pushing up behind, and another pulling the horns. As for the poor donkeys, the less said the better. Great hulking brutes on them with legs so long that they had to walk on the ground. The poor beasts looked half dead. Where are the inspectors for cruelty to animals?" If there was any cruelty, why did not our friend intervene?

P. C. (Acocks Green) writes about the dangers of hatpins, and says: "The point should be procceted as every thing should be done to not indanger life to procet life. I have thought of a good way of safeguarding the point. I have made one with two knobs. Tried it in my wife." What did she say?

A. M. (High Holborn) suggests that the greatest stinkpots in the world are the people who run away with other men's wives, and omit to marry them after the decree nisi has been made absolute, or else people who steal other contributors' manuscripts when sent in for acceptance. We scarcely think this would have taken the prize, but, as a matter of fact, Jim Crow asked for specimens of smells rather than of smellers.

J. B. (West Hampstead) asks whether any portion of the *Titanic* money has been spent in newspaper advertising, and, if so, whether the price paid per page is as low as the nostrum vendors are able to obtain. We had already asked the question.

C. M. (Kentish Town) suggests as a poster: "The Life Story of one Maudlin, by Jim Crow." But Jim is now a teetotaler, and it is only at Oxford and Cambridge that Magda'en is pronounced in this rude way.

J. A. P. (Montreal) wants our opinion about the "perfidious politics" of the candidates for the Yankee Presidency, but we are too busy with perfidious politics over here to take any interest in the noisy vulgarity of these transatlantic brawlers.

W. W. (Islington) has been organising a campaign against dangerous motor-buses, "in vew of the enormous accidents that have taken place." He is presenting petitions and would probably like us to put a question in Parliament. Alas, alas, all this is much too late.

E. L. L. (Oxford) calculates that the Shops Act costs him £6 15s. a year. As he says he has always made it a practice to give his assistants a half holiday every week, we do not understand the precise nature of his grievance.

"CHORLEY."—We cannot undertake to adjudicate the competitions of other newspapers, but we think an action would lie against a paper which admits that you sent in the same answer as the prize-winner.

"MACDUFF" (Windsor).—Our investigation of the business of the firm in question extends only to the recent Derby Sweepstake, and that we found to be quite straight.

Miss M. C. (Highbury Hill) suggests that Members of Parliament should have a compulsory half-holiday every week and deduct something from their salary. But why call this "A hair of the dog that bites the small tradesman"? We thought that phrase was reserved for excessive consumers of intoxicating liquors.

E. A., M. G., A. V. P.—three nurses connected with the East Preston Infirmary, near Worthing—have resigned their appointment on the ground of unsatisfactory food, insufficient staff, inadequate time off duty, and "lack of respect from patients." We are rather puzzled about the last-mentioned reason.

"AMAZED" wants us to condemn a certain weekly paper for referring to Smyth-Pigott as the Messiah, but the word may have been used ironically.

S. L. (King's Cross) and other correspondents, are respectfully informed that the enclosure of a stamped addressed envelope does not entitle them to an answer by post.

"ANGLO-INDIAN" complains that his journey from Bombay to London, second class, cost him £20 a week, whilst passengers from Sydney were charged only £5 a week. How many pegs did he have?

E. J. N. (Mitcham) is one of the great class of inventors without capital, but he is a little bit out of the ordinary, as he made £6,000 by an invention in 1889, and has lived on the proceeds ever since. Now he wants us to finance an improved tyre for bicycles, an "utility bottle" for wines and spirits, and a "revolving boot-heel"—which sounds dangerous.

"CONMAR" complains of the Marconi International Marine Communication Company for requiring that applicants shall not be more than 25 years of age, shall pay a doctor's fee of one guinea, and must have good eyesight. Personally we do not see any ground for objection to these stipulations—except, perhaps, the first.

W. B. (Kirkdale).—The fact that a newspaper is thirty-seven years old does not make us anxious to quote from it.

"A READER" tells us about an accident to a horse and the lapse of two hours before an ambulance could be obtained. He thinks it would have been kinder to shoot the animal, but we wonder whether he would advocate similar kindness in the case of injured human beings.

G. H. V. (Bushey) says:—"Men are far and few and misrepresentated when they are to be found, but nevertheless the cry goes forth we need reale and live men for this day and generation, to put those who apply who are crushing life's sinures out of the toiler and finally the tables will turn." This sounds rather spiritualistic, doesn't it?

"A CORRESPONDENT," who desires to remain anonymous, says:—"The Workhouse wants reforming. Convicts get on a lot better than paupers. I am deform. Can you find room for this free of charge?" See how willing we are to oblige.

"PIANIST" works in a public house. The landlord always shakes hands with him every week and gives him the price of a few drinks. He wants to know whether under the Insurance Act he will have to stick stamps. He has been "insured for funeral" during the last twenty-three years. We always wonder why people worry about their funerals. Personally we are not in the least interested as to what will be done with our vile body after the completion of its period of usefulness on this planet.

L. L. P. (Holloway) asks whether he is wasting time in entering competitions in newspapers and whether they are only catches. The waste of time can be judged only by the results.

C. W. C. (London, S.W.) sends violent and complicated complaints abour a Police Superintendent and a mother-in-law, but it would not be easy fot us to take up the cudgels on his behalf without hearing what the mother-in-law had to say.

T. A. I. (Maida Vale) wants us to imagine his surprise when he was charged three shillings for six eggs at a hotel at Richmond, but we are not quite sure that the bill is really worth framing.

E. H. (West Kensington).—We really cannot undertake to advise about people who profess to cure bad eyesight, even though you may have been rash enough to trust us with a stamped envelope.

W. G. T. (Swansea) has a poor opinion of parsons because "a great many of them are addicted to drink and other vices, are money-grabbers, and some of them go to the extent of dying their hair." We agree about the disestablishment of nonconformity and the unfairness of allowing "religious" people to beg when poor people are sent to prison for doing the same thing.

J. R. (East Barnet).—What made you think that we should be interested in the morals of your locality? There may be "a very fine state of things for the nineteenth century," but we happen to have reached the twentieth, which is learning lessons of toleration.

C. R. H. (Bolton) tried to avoid some children when riding a bicycle and ran into some railings which "fell in one section on a bit of soil." Although he says he had "not been riding 50 yards a hour," he was accused of "trepassing," and the Judge would not allow him to defend himself in a proper manner. No wonder he considers this a miscarriage of justice. Trepassing is French for death, if we remember aright.

L. S. (Clerkenwell) writes:—"Kindlj let me know what that number of Soldier's, were that Died, in the South African War. Including thos that died in action, and that died of desease, and those that died of accident, etc. Let me know whether the number was over 25.000. or under. Awaiting replj. Jou trullj." Merrj Andru Karneggj will have to look to his orthographical laurels.

S. W. (Durham) need not worry about the lottery tickets which came to him unsolicited from Switzerland, as he was under no obligation to sell them or pay for them. Indeed, he might have got himself into trouble by doing so.

C. H. S. (Chester) also sends us 1s. for the benefit of the consumptive clerk Powell, who unsuccessfully sued his late employers, the Junior Army and Navy Stores. The list is now closed.

F. H. P. (Dublin) wants us to charge a shilling for answering our correspondents, and devote the proceeds to Human Documents. But some people might grudge even so small a sum for the kind of chaff which we sometimes dole out.

A. D. (Hatton Garden) says he did not ask us for £5 for flattery, but for brains. Well, where are they?

T. H. (Dalton) writes: "I know you can't please everybody, so why try to please anybody?" We don't.

"LOYAL" complains that the National Anthem was omitted on two occasions when he visited Humstanton Pier. Is he then a claimant to the British throne?

(We are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.)

£100 for the Test Match top scores.

The LETTERS PATENT INSURANCE COMPANY, Ltd., are issuing a Prospectus, which states, amongst other things, that the Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.
The Company's Shares will also be offered for subscription in France, Germany, and Switzerland.
The SUBSCRIPTION LIST will OPEN on THURSDAY, June 20th, and will CLOSE on or before MONDAY, June 24th, 1912, for Town, and on THURSDAY, June 27th, for Country and Abroad.

The LETTERS PATENT INSURANCE CO., LTD.

Incorporated under the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908.

CAPITAL - £250,000,

DIVIDED INTO 125,000 6 PER CENT. CUMULATIVE PARTICIPATING PREFERENCE SHARES OF £1 EACH, 2,000 6 PER CENT. CUMULATIVE PARTICIPATING PREFERENCE SHARES OF £50 EACH, AND 500,000 ORDINARY SHARES OF 1/- EACH.

OFFER OF 125,000 6 PER CENT. CUMULATIVE PARTICIPATING PREFERENCE SHARES OF £1 EACH AT PAR, 2,000 6 PER CENT. CUMULATIVE PARTICIPATING PREFERENCE SHARES OF £50 EACH AT PAR, AND 225,000 ORDINARY SHARES OF 1/- EACH AT PAR.

THE PREFERENCE SHARES ARE PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS: 10 PER CENT. ON APPLICATION, 10 PER CENT. ON ALLOTMENT, 10 PER CENT. ONE MONTH AFTER ALLOTMENT, AND THE BALANCE IN CALLS NOT EXCEEDING 25 PER CENT. OF THE NOMINAL AMOUNT AT INTERVALS OF NOT LESS THAN TWO MONTHS AS AND WHEN REQUIRED. THE ORDINARY SHARES ARE PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS: 1/- ON APPLICATION.

Each subscriber of Preference Shares will be entitled to apply for and have allotted to him Fifty Ordinary Shares in respect of each Preference Share of £50, and One Ordinary Share in respect of each Preference Share of £1 each allotted to him.

The profits of the Company available for dividend are to be applicable to the payment of a fixed cumulative preferential dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on the capital paid up on the Preference Shares in priority to the Ordinary Shares. The surplus profits in each year available for dividend which shall remain after providing for the payment for such year of the said fixed cumulative preferential dividend shall be divided as to one-third thereof among the holders of the Preference Shares in proportion to the capital paid up thereon; and as to the remaining two-thirds thereof among the holders of the ordinary shares in proportion to the capital paid up thereon. The Preference shares shall also rank as regards return of capital in priority to the Ordinary Shares, but shall not confer the right to any further participation in profits or assets.

The Company will, if required, issue Share Warrants to Bearer in respect of fully paid Shares.

DIRECTORS.

EDGAR COHEN, Director of Harrod's Stores, Ltd., 8, Clarges-street, Piccadilly, W. (Chairman).
The Right Hon. LORD CHURSTON, Basildon House, Moorgate-street, E.C.
Sir FRANCIS TRIPPEL, Oakwood Court, Melbury-road, Kensington, W.
H. SYMONS, K.C. (Canadian Bar), Director, Union Life Assurance Company, Toronto, Canada, United Empire Club, Piccadilly, W.
J. G. HAIGHTON, Banker, "Holmhurst," Dulwich, S.E., and The Hague.
HENRI CHERONNET, late State Engineer to the French Government, 54, Bd. Pereire, Paris.
H. LA ROCHE, of Messrs. La Roche and Cie., Bankers, Bale, Switzerland.
Dr. FRANZ WOLF BURKHARDT, Proprietor Electro-Chemische Werke, Seebach, near Zurich.

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SIR PHILIP MAGNUS, J.P., M.P., University of London.
SIR NORMAN LOCKYER, K.C.B., F.R.S., LL.D., 16, Penywern Road, S.W.
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SIR JAMES CRICHTON-BROWNE, M.R.C.S., M.D., F.R.S.E.
W. C. UNWIN, LL.D., F.R.S., M.Inst.C.E., Hon. M.Inst.M.E., 7, Palace Gate Mansions, Kensington, W.
PROFESSOR G. S. BOULGER, F.L.S., F.G.S., A.S.I., 1 and 2, Great Winchester Street, E.C.

INSURANCE ADVISER.

WM. SCHOOLING, 17, Old Queen-street, Westminster, S.W.

LIST OF ENGLISH EXAMINERS AND CONSULTING ENGINEERS.

G. R. BAILLIE (of Messrs. Baillie and Dobrée), 82, Victoria-street, S.W.
T. THORNE BAKER, F.C.S., F.R.P.S., 15, Grosvenor-gardens, N.W.
R. BELFIELD, A.M.I.C.E., 3, London Wall Buildings, E.C.
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Dr. G. M. CHRISTIE, The Otto Coke Oven Company, Ltd., Crigglestone.
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H. A. COPE, 3, London Wall Buildings, E.C.
PROFESSOR J. D. CORMACK University of London, W.C.
Messrs. CROSS and BEVAN, 3, New-court, W.C.
Messrs. FARMAN FRERES, Aviation Experts, Paris.
J. N. GOLDSMITH, Consulting Chemist, 76, Chancery-lane, W.C.
E. GARCKE, M.I.E.E., Electrical Federation Offices, Kingsway, W.C.
H. H. GRAY, Department of Fuel and Metallurgy, The University Leeds.
PROFESSOR A. G. GREEN, M.Sc., F.I.C., F.C.S., Leeds University.
OSCAR GUTTMANN and SONS, Cons. Eng., 59, Mark Lane, E.C.
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PHILIP M. JUSTICE, Chartered Patent Agent, 55-56, Chancery Lane, W.C.
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Ad. LIEBMANN, Ph.D., M.A., The Whim, Weybridge.
PROFESSOR G. T. MORGAN, D.Sc., F.I.C., Royal College of Science, South Kensington.
Dr. J. GORDON PARKER, London Leather Industrial Laboratory, 176, Tower Bridge-road, S.E.
F. W. PASSMORE, Ph.D., 81, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.
SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY, K.C.B., F.R.S., President of the British Association, Professor University College, Gower-street, W.C.
SIR BOVERTON REDWOOD, Bart., D.Sc., 4, Bishopsgate, E.C.
ALFRED GORDON SALAMON, F.I.C., 1, Fenchurch-avenue, E.C.
Dr. O. SILBERRAD, Ph.D., M.S.A., F.C.S., The Silberrad Research Laboratories, Buckhurst Hill, Essex.
PERCY E. SPIELMANN, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C., 21, Cadogan-gardens, W.
Dr. J. E. STEAD, F.R.S., F.I.C., F.C.S., Middlesbrough.
JAMES SWINBURNE, F.R.S., 82, Victoria-street, S.W.
Th. ZETTEL, Ph.D., 67, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

Several English and French Government Experts are also willing to act as Examiners and Consulting Engineers, but owing to their official positions, their names cannot appear on the Prospectus.

SOLICITORS TO THE COMPANY.

BEYFUS and BEYFUS, 69, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.
SOLICITORS TO THE PATENT PROTECTION ASSOCIATION, LTD.
CRUESEMANN and ROUSE, 85, Gracechurch Street, E.C.

BROKERS.

BROWNING, TODD, and Co., 18, Old Broad Street, E.C.
TRITTON, LABOUCHERE, and CARO, 61, Old Broad Street, E.C.
BANKERS.—LONDON CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LTD., Head Office and Branches.

AUDITORS.

HOLROYD, WEST, and NORTHCOTT, Chartered Accountants, 6, Great Winchester Street, E.C.
SECRETARY AND REGISTERED OFFICES (pro tem.),
W. S. ROUSE, 46, Cannon Street, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

OBJECTS OF THE COMPANY.—The Letters Patent Insurance Company, Limited (hereinafter called "the Company") has been formed for the purposes set forth in the Memorandum of Association, and particularly to undertake Insurances to cover the liability of Patentees and others so far as the law allows for the costs and expenses of prosecuting and defending Actions in connection with Letters Patent, Designs, Trade Marks, and other monopolies, including any damages awarded against Defendants in such actions.

The Company's scope is a very considerable one, and the Company is advised by Professor Hearson, of Messrs. Phillips and Leigh, Chartered Patent Agents, that about 30,000 patents are applied for in this country alone annually, that there are about 85,000 English patents in force, that there are about 25,000 designs and 10,000 Trade Marks applied for annually at the British Patent Office, that there are about 250,000 Trade Marks and designs in force at the moment, and that over 700,000 Patents are in force abroad.

It is intended to issue policies not only to patentees but also to licensees.

PROFITS.—Necessarily the Directors are unable to give fixed data as to the amount of premium income and expenses of conducting the proposed business, but

Assuming only an average of 2½ per cent. of the patents, trade marks and designs for the time being in force in England and foreign countries are insured with the Company, the annual premium for such insurance (after deducting estimated amount payable for re-insurance) may be expected to amount to	£200,000
Deduct estimated risk less estimated portion of risk re-insured, Commissioners, Management and Office Expenses, Directors' Fees, and Expert's Fees, say	£160,000
	£40,000
Add interest	£3,000
Leaving a balance of Profits available for Dividends and Reserves of	£43,000

It is not anticipated that it will be necessary (assuming the whole of the present issue of Preference Shares is subscribed) to call up more than 3d per cent. per share on the £225,000 Preference Shares, which, together with the proceeds of the Ordinary Shares offered to the public, will (in the event of the whole of the Preference Shares being allotted), provide nearly £80,000, as the Company should soon be equipped with additional cash through premium income.

Full Prospectuses and forms of application for shares may be obtained from the Bankers and Solicitors, and at the offices of the Company.

No. 32.

THIS FORM MAY BE USED.

This form may be sent, with remittance for the amount payable on application, to THE LONDON CITY & MIDLAND BANK, Limited, Threadneedle Street, London, E.C., or any of its Branches.

THE LETTERS PATENT INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
Incorporated under the Companies (Consolidated) Act, 1908.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To the Directors of
THE LETTERS PATENT INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
46, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Gentlemen,—Having paid to the Company's Bankers the sum of £....., being the deposit of 10 per cent. per share, payable on application for ..... Six per Cent. Cumulative Participating Preference Shares of £1 each, and a further sum of £....., being payment in full on application, for ..... Ordinary Shares of 1s. each in the above Company, I hereby apply for and request you to allot me that number of Shares, and I hereby agree to accept the same, or any less number which may be allotted to me, upon the terms of the Company's Full Prospectus filed with Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, and the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company, and I authorise you to place my name on the Register of Members of the Company as holder of such Shares so allotted to me, and I further agree to pay the Company the further sum of 10 per cent. per Preference Share on allotment in respect of any Shares so allotted, and the balance as provided by the said Prospectus.

Name in full.....
Usual Signature .....
Address .....
Description ..... Date..... 1912.

CAN YOU HIT THE BULL'S EYE?

PRELIMINARY TRIAL.

We have instituted what we believe will be a very popular competition, in which all may join, consisting of

HITTING THE BULL'S EYE.

We guarantee Weekly Prizes amounting to not less than £25, divided as follows:—

1st PRIZE, 25 per cent.;
2nd PRIZE, 15 per cent.;
3rd PRIZE, 10 per cent.; and

Forty Prizes of not less than 5/- each for the best attempts to HIT THE BULL'S EYE.

The competition consists in completing any one of the unfinished Bull's Eyes appearing below. The answers must be crisp and to the point, and the prizes will be awarded to those readers who, in the judgment of the Editor—whose decision is to be absolutely final—hit the Bull's Eye in the clearest and sharpest form. The other Bull's Eyes will guide them as to the style they should adopt, and the finishing of the incomplete ones should afford much amusement and, at the same time, instruction.

All Bull's Eyes must be sent in on the form on this page, and a postal order for 6d. must accompany each coupon. Postal orders must be made payable to JOHN BULL *and crossed "& Co." Competitors sending more than one Coupon may enclose one Postal Order for the full amount to cover the whole of the Coupons, at the rate of 6d. for each Coupon. Write your name and address on the back of the Postal Order, and also put the number of the Postal Order on the Coupon. Coupon will be found on this page. Not more than* TWO *attempts may appear on any* ONE COUPON *and the Sixpence covers the entrance fee of both. Any Bull's Eye may be varied any number of times.*

The Bull's Eyes selected for the Competition are numbered, and it is not necessary to repeat the printed portion of the lines, as long as the numbers are mentioned on the coupons.

We wish it to be understood that the prizes will be awarded strictly on MERIT *and without any regard to the population of towns, or any other ulterior consideration. Competitors, however, should bear in mind that* NOVELTY *is an important consideration in selecting the successful Bull's Eyes.*

BULL'S EYES.

"What are your hands worth?" an article is headed. It depends upon what Fate deals.

Hasn't Lord Haldane got the "sack" at last?

Do the Welsh Nonconformists spell "pray" with an "e"?

Would Mrs. Pankhurst have preferred a jury of her own sex?

1. Paper towels are now the vogue. So at last we shall have the pleasure of seeing daily papers that . . . .

Won't the lightermen be much "lighter" men presently?

"Lightning Courtship," reads a headline. Both "struck," we presume.

"Spotted Fever in London," says a heading. We are glad that it has been "spotted."

"Foreigners complain about our want of manners," says Lady Sybil Grant. Yes, Germany, for example, thinks that we should stand aside and let her go first.

2. A tramp complains that you can't get a bed in England for a penny. But . . . .

"People are beginning to take their intelligence with them to the theatre," says Miss Horniman. Possibly because they find none there.

An infant rhinoceros just arrived from India is valued at £1,000. No wonder they call money "rhino."

The L.C.C. School for Waiters should be well patronised; the average waiter is never above taking a tip.

3. It is to be hoped that the Chinese Exhibition at the Crystal Palace will bring in . . . .

"Life is a jig-saw," says Mrs. N. H. Walker. Yes, and a few get all the "pieces."

According to a contemporary, the income-tax joke season is now beginning. But the average man can't see the joke.

A motor smash in France was caused by a lady driver losing her hat. And her head too, apparently.

The club, as a last resort in matrimonial difficulties, is doubtless a survival of pre-historic days.

RESULT OF COMPETITION NO. 9.

We have had rather a difficult task set us this week in awarding the prizes, as many competitors have hit upon similar ideas with regard to the fitting terminations of the various Bull's Eyes, but have differed considerably in the phraseology adopted.

We have decided to award the first prize to

MR. F. R. DENMOR,

7, Ayresome Avenue, Street Lane, Roundhay, Leeds,

with respect to the termination of the following Bull's Eye printed in *italics*:—

"'The ordinary Member of Parliament has no real work to do,' says Sir Robert Parks. No, he just has to keep his *'Ayes' on his leader, and be led by the 'Noes.'*"

The second and third prizes are divided between the following competitors, as follows:—

MR. W. WARD, Acton Barnett, Shrewsbury,

and MR. WM. H. SAUNDERS,

56, Lower Moorland Road, Weston-super-Mare, for

"The Milan man who summoned the fire brigade to quench his wife's anger overlooked the fact that she was already *fitted with hose and pumps*," and "*in possession of pumps and hose*," and

MR. H. NEWELL, 11, Bishopsgate, E.C., for

"A Doncaster woman swallowed a bed-key five inches long. It must have given her quite *an 'ell' of a turn.*"

The following competitors received prizes of 5s. each:—
F. Wadley Linton, Sondes Road, Deal; G. Hill, 363, Albert Bridge Road, Belfast, Ireland; L. H. Parsons, 2, The Mount, Broadwater, Worthing; J. Hagley, 4, Tramway Avenue, Lower Edmonton, Middlesex; E. H. James, 140, Beulah Hill, Upper Norwood, S.E.; E. A. Jones, 12, Wallace Street, Kingston, Halifax, Yorks.; W. A. Hilton, 86, Imperial Avenue, Shirley, Southampton; V. H. Southgate, Westfield Boarding House, Southsea; W. Christie, 9, Westhorpe Road, East Dulwich, S.E.; E. S. Rosevear, 100, Alma Road, Bournemouth; R. Barclay, 4, Fernshaw Mansions, Fernshaw Road, S.W.; A. G. Farmer, 60, Northern Grove, West Didsbury, Manchester; J. A. Cosgrave, 9, Saint Joseph Street, Synnott Place, Dublin; Odgar J. Hicks, 2, Trafalgar Square, Scarborough; W. Donald Scoular, 1577, Great Western Road, Glasgow; Mrs. E. Chamlon, 6, Grosvenor Road, Broadstairs; J. A. Rowan, 123, South Lambeth Road, S.W.; J. H. A. Hasenclever, Fernroyd, Whitestake, nr. Preston; Mrs. W. Dempster, 79, Iffley Road, Hammersmith, W.; Clifford Cooper, 23, Sully Terrace, Penarth, nr. Cardiff; C. E. Rose, 22, Swallow Street, Birmingham; Claude P. Glover, 17, Carleton Villas, Pontefract, Yorks.; E. Green, 53, Tavistock Street, Bedford; Arthur Creston, 16, Nottingham Street, Marylebone; W. Evans, 250, T. S. "Arethusa," Greenhithe, Kent; V. Sainty, 35, Cromwell Street, Nottingham; Miss G. A. Rogers, 42, Lime Grove, Cheadle, Cheshire; W. E. Walker, Morton, nr. Alpeton, Derbyshire; G. H. Bangeley, 22, Grange Road, Southport; V. Searle, 97, Paris Street, Exeter; A. S. Combes, 63, Galloway Road, Shepherd's Bush, W.; G. Bymott, "Castlethorpe," Bicor Green, Cowes, I. of W.; E. Large, 21, Manor Road, Enfield, N.; Mrs. A. M. Nestor, Ballinacourra, Limerick, Ireland; W. Wright, 36, Piccadilly, W.; Joe Scott, "Hillhead," Counteswells, Aberdeen; E. Shannon, 92, Mitre Street, Waterloo, S.E.; H. A. Frances, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex; Miss E. Lewis, 80, London Road, St. Albans, Herts; T. Bond, 14, Medway Road, Bow, E.

OUR FINAL FOOTBALL COMPETITION.—The result of this will be announced in our next issue.

BULL'S EYE COUPON.—No. 11.

Postal Order No.

JOHN BULL, *June 22, 1912.*

I enter JOHN BULL *Bull's Eye Competition (issue of June 22, 1912) on the terms stated in such issue.*

Name _____

Address _____

_____

I select Bull's Eye No. *and suggest the following finish:—*

Not more than 12 words.

_____

_____

_____

I select Bull's Eye No. *and suggest the following finish:—*

Not more than 12 words.

_____

_____

_____

Competitors need not select more than one Bull's Eye unless they care to do so. Postal Order for Sixpence must accompany this Coupon and be crossed "& Co." Coupon must be sent not later than WEDNESDAY NEXT, *June 26th, to Bull's Eye Editor,* JOHN BULL, *93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C.*

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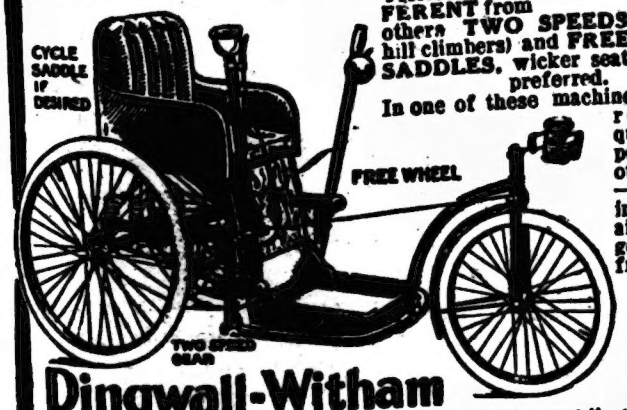
Send for my FREE BOOK



In one of these machines you are rendered quite independent of other people—can get out in the fresh air unaided—go to and from your business if you wish. Designed by an Invalid and Cycle Engineer.

Dingwall-Witham

Highly recommended in "British Medical Journal," etc. If you know anyone unable to walk, cut out this advt. and show them. Trials arranged at London works. Send for the Booklet to-day.

WITHAM, 6A Pyle House, Newport, Wight.

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No time like the present.

A shabby appearance is a serious drawback and a heavy handicap in the struggle for success. There is no need whatever to put off ordering a new rig-out; the Graves 35/- Suit is the greatest achievement in popular priced tailoring which the clothing trade has to offer, and our equitable easy payment system enables you to have your suit immediately, and spread the cost over several months. All the essentials of a well planned, comfortable and stylish suit are put into the Graves 35/- Style. The materials are reliable and of handsome appearance; the suit is cleverly cut, carefully tailored, and trimmed and finished in perfect taste. This is a high-grade clothing offer into which it will pay you to look without delay. There is no time like the present.

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WHEREVER YOU LIVE you may take advantage of our favourable prices and equitable easy payment terms, and every reader who is alive to his own interests should send a post card immediately for our unrivalled display of suiting samples at 35/- and 42/- post free per return. Everything carriage paid to all approved orders for small deposit with order and easy monthly payments through the post after goods are received & considered quite satisfactory. Say whether you prefer Light or Dark patterns. 2/- in the £ Discount Cash with order.

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EVERY TUESDAY. ONE PENNY.

JOHN BULL SUMMER ANNUAL

120 PAGES. ONE SHILLING.

RACING NOTES.

By W. Lotinga.

["Larry Lynx" of The People, "Double U. L." of Lotinga's Weekly, and "Magpie" of The Globe.]

Prophetic.

In the Hunt Cup my belief is that whatever beats the luckless Eton Boy on the uphill striding course will win it, and that the danger is from Oliver Goldsmith' and My Collar. In the Gold Cup the French horses now have nothing to beat, so the weedy Basse Pointe must score.

Great Surprise can make sure of one of his engagements, probably the King's Stand Stakes on Friday, as it is five furlongs, in preference to the other race over six. It would be staggering indeed if Uncle Pat won the High Weight Stakes, over 1¼ miles of this severe course, which he certainly would do if it were on the home downs. With Wootton on him he runs for certain, so we shall anyhow see the horse's real form. Windsor, as usual, winds up the Ascot week, when Svetec, who on the book is better than Preferment, will surely win the Millhouse Plate, and whatever beats Dewhurst's representative, probably Protestant Boy, must gain the June Handicap. Follow Naval Engineer in his race.

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RESULT OF THE

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DERBY SWEEPSTAKES.

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TAGALIE—E. W. Eades, Esq., 1, Peppercroft Street, Gravesend. £1,421.
10 - Sweepstake won by—
TAGALIE—Miss J. Morton, 9, Sussex Mansions, S.Kensington, London. £780.
Next Sweepstake on the St. Leger. Terms free on application.
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TURF ACCOUNTANT.

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CONTINENTAL SWEEPSTAKES.

£500 FOR A SHILLING.

By Our Special Commissioner.

After witnessing Mr. H. Diamond's Derby Sweepstake draw of Lucerne, and certifying the same as genuine in every respect, it gave me great pleasure to agree to the promoter's request to present to the winner the £500.

The lucky individual is Mr. W. H. Cowdery, landlord of a little wayside inn, the "Foresters' Arms," Coxgreen, near Maidenhead. His house is two miles from the railway station, stands in the centre of a fruit-growing district, and from the point of view of an advertisement to Mr. Diamond it is about the worst place to which the £500 could have gone.

When at last I arrived at the "Foresters'" I was not in the least surprised, for in spite of Mr. Cowdery being a publican, he is of a retiring nature, and anything more unlike a public-house I never came across than the inn. There it stands, on the high road, with scarcely a house near and certainly not a customer that I could see. In fact, the only two people that I could talk with were the prizewinner and his wife.

Mr. Cowdery informed me that, as the days were long in those parts, he made a little hobby of racing. He does not make a habit of backing horses, but merely takes an interest in the big events. In this way he heard of Mr. Diamond's sweepstake, and wrote for a book of twenty tickets, costing him in all a sovereign. A friend joined him in the purchase, and they in turn sold all their tickets, except one each which they retained for themselves. Out of this book one turned out to be worth £500, and the publican was the lucky holder.

Mr. Cowdery informed me that this is the first sweepstake he has ever won, although he has entered for several. He has been landlord of the "Foresters'" for close upon 12 years, and previous to that occupied similar premises near Reading.

I have really nothing more to add as regards the winner, except to say that he took the banknote from me and gave me a receipt with an air of suspicion.

JOHN McLAUCHLAN'S DERBY SWEEP.

When in Lucerne I pressed Mr. McLauchlan for an explanation of the recent attack upon him in a contemporary, and while I am not allowed to discuss the matter here, I must say that there is another side to the story. The draw took place on May 29, in the large hall of the Hotel Helvetia.

The name of every horse entered was typed on a separate piece of paper, rolled up, placed in a small tube, locked by a screw, and then dropped in a revolving wheel. I then put the tickets of all subscribers in another revolving wheel of larger dimensions. Both machines being locked, they were revolved for ten minutes. Four clerks sat at different tables with pens, ink and paper before them, ready to record the draw. Two children aged about ten took complete charge of each wheel, and I sat between.

First of all a little hand unlocked the big machine, dived down, and drew out a subscriber's ticket. This was handed to me, and I in turn passed it along to a clerk, who shouted out the number of the ticket and the name and address of the subscriber. As the name and address were called out they were written down by the four clerks and myself. Next, the small machine was unlocked by the child in charge, and a tube withdrawn. This tube was then unscrewed, the paper it contained unfolded, and the name of the horse written on it read out aloud, and placed opposite the subscriber's name. The machines were then revolved again, and the process carried out until each horse in the Derby had been drawn.

I left the Hotel Helvetia after the draw with a full list of names and addresses of those who had been successful in drawing a horse, and I subsequently checked this with the list published in John Bull of June 15. I also communicated with the winners, and found they had duly been paid.

I can certainly say that McLauchlan's Derby Sweepstake for 1912 was genuine in every detail.

Several readers have written asking how subscribers can be sure that the tickets they purchase are included in the draw. Of course, there is always a difficulty in this respect, but it does not apply to a guaranteed sweepstake like Mr. Diamond's, where the prize money is guaranteed irrespective of the number of tickets sold. We are also asked, "Even if a draw is witnessed by independent and responsible people, how do subscribers know that the wheel is not loaded with bogus tickets?" The only real guarantee against this is to have all the drawn numbers published before the race, with the names and addresses of the holders.

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LIESTAL, SWITZERLAND.

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To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL *of specified date*, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all the work done.

The following claim has been received for our issue of May 11th :—

Mr. J. HOLMES, 138, Eglinton Road, Woolwich, S.E. No. 23274. May 11th.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of May 25th :—

6946	199725	364919	567489	732563
22111	207335	391042	591087	735871
42043	232291	418007	616088	737227
63844	236871	449447	633014	737291
83426	237773	468274	675814	742612
109526	250612	479178	699368	745920
116334	271266	494805	704354	755842
136464	315376	511431	726684	760145
155589	371442	528281	727717	774854
183284	359976	549824	728823	775612

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED JULY 20TH (PUBLISHED JULY 18TH, 1912).

The John Bull League.

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The General Secretary,
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Please enrol me as a Member and send me a Membership Badge, for which I enclose P.O. for 6d.

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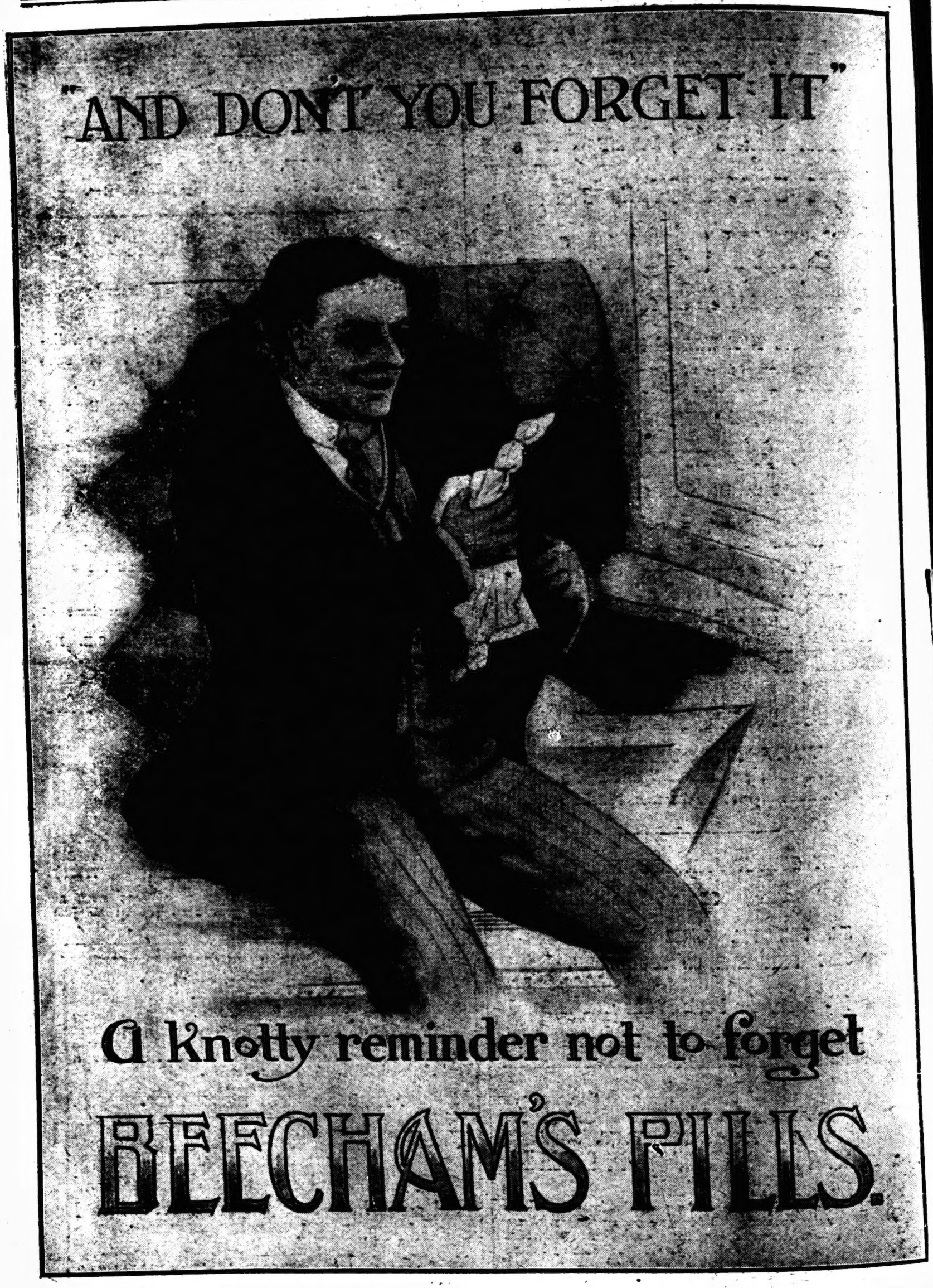

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